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We beg to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications; and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

It is now clear to everyone that the Government have no Second Chamber scheme; and have no idea when they will have one. This was put definitely to the test by Mr. Younger's amendment. How long under the Radical plan is the constitution of the Upper House to remain as it is? Will it be more or less than a period of three years? Mr. Balfour showed clearly enough that the relations between the Houses as defined in the Parliament Bill can last only so long as both Houses remain as they are. A bill to define the relations between two Houses, one of which does not yet exist, is unthinkable. But the Government has refused to limit the operation of the Bill to three years. Mr. Balfour suggested in vain that even in pledges of honour by a Radical Government there must be some time limit.

Mr. Churchill admitted on Wednesday that the Government had seriously considered whether they should restore to the House of Lords their right to suggest amendments to a money bill. He even said that the right of amendment was "not inconsistent" with the tenour of the Radical scheme. It would have been a curious result of the attack on the House of Lords if the Government had accepted the contentions of Dr. Hillier, and had restored to the Peers a right surrendered over two hundred years ago. Without the right of suggesting amendments to the Commons it is difficult to see what purpose is served by sending up money bills to the House of Lords at all. How are the Commons to take advantage of suggestions, or of points raised in the Lords' discussions? The refusal of this amendment was given by Mr. Churchill in terms of insolent bigotry—"they were not in any mood to confer on the House of Lords new powers".

As to introducing the ballot into the House Mr. Balfour and Mr. Asquith are agreed. Both were against it. As the main effect of secret voting in divi-

sions in the House would be to weaken the power of the front benches over their followers, this agreement of the two leaders to keep out the ballot will come to Mr. Belloc as final, absolute proof of systematic collusion between the two front benches. Mr. Balfour admits the weak points in the House as it is, but thinks Lord Hugh Cecil's proposal would only put worse things in their place. One thing, at any rate, is certain. The outside public is getting a glimpse into the unreality of much of the political game.

The unfortunate Mr. Runciman seems to sink deeper in difficulty every day. He is not out of the wood yet in the matter of the Holmes circular—oh, no; he is very deep in it; Mr. Holmes has to come back before he will be out of that wood—and now comes crashing on him the House of Lords' judgment in the Swansea case. Finally the Board of Education is found to be absolutely wrong from the beginning. Neither the Divisional Court nor the Court of Appeal nor the House of Lords has had a shadow of doubt about the merits of this case. The Swansea Council tried to starve out a Church school by refusing to pay the teachers a fair wage, and the Board of Education—under the guidance of a Radical Government—have done their utmost throughout to aid and abet the local education authority in its wrong-doing. At last the exposure is complete, and a new chapter opens.

An Inland Revenue official has suggested to some of the railway companies that they should pay their income-tax this year in April instead of in March, when it was really due. Mr. Hobhouse admitted the fact, but said it was all owing to the "mistake of a subordinate officer". The story of Mr. Holmes over again! Sir Frederick Banbury found this answer unsatisfactory; certainly it was a most extraordinary "mistake". Also, it is a peculiarly fortunate mistake for the Government, as it helps them to rob the sinking fund by the precise amount of the tax on which payment is deferred. Taxes paid in before 30 March go to swell the excess of revenue over expenditure in the financial year which determines on that date; and this excess should in the ordinary course go to pay off the fund. By deferring the collection, this portion of revenue is thrown forward into the next financial year, and is at the command of the Exchequer—for

secret political purposes. This deferred collection is a smart and discreditable trick—a cooking of the national budget, and dishonest in intention.

Mr. Churchill has an assured passage for his Shops Bill, and would be unwise at this time to introduce into it any fresh matter that would put the rest in peril. The Bill as it stands at present is almost uncontroversial; but if Mr. Churchill were to listen to the various suggestions of the Imperial Sunday Alliance and the Free Church Council, who waited upon him on Tuesday last, the Bill would at once be hotly resisted, and possibly lost altogether. Mr. Churchill was unnecessarily vehement in his regard for the vested interests in Sunday trading. It is quite characteristic of the Home Secretary that in answering these deputations he could not keep from plat-form phrases about the "wretched costermongers".

There was one proposal of the Bishop of Landaff which Mr. Churchill refused with silly violence. The Bishop would prohibit the selling of newspapers after ten o'clock on Sunday. Mr. Churchill "would sooner leave Parliament than make himself responsible for doing that". He gave no reason, except that "Sunday newspapers, whether they were good or bad, had come into existence and were a tremendous organisation". Is this a barefaced admission that all "tremendous organisations" which are powerful to influence the mind of the average owner of a vote are to be left alone? Mr. Churchill's attitude shows there is no hope from a Radical Government of any measure dealing in a satisfactory way with street-trading by children. The week-day papers are more "tremendous" than the Sunday papers; and, whether they are good or bad, they will certainly oppose any attempt to deprive them of the newsboy.

Another House of Commons group; Unionist this time. Of the multiplication of organisations, of new committees, of Reveillées, of Forwards, of Young Liberals and Young Conservatives we are suspicious. They are a burden to political flesh. But for once we must welcome cordially a new Unionist committee. This time the object is social reform. Mr. F. E. Smith has accepted the chairmanship of a group of Unionist members, with a few others, who are keen for social reform on its merits and realise the necessity for the Unionist party to do more on these lines. Both tradition and advantage point the Unionist party this way. If the new group could set before the country a definite Unionist social programme, it would do good work indeed.

The caddie question has come into the House. Mr. Churchill took it seriously. He should know something about it, for he is a golfer and plays on a course where the caddie question is faced and solved in the right way. Caddies at Walton Heath are not boys, but unemployables—either wasters or men knocked out for some reason or past work. They may not be aesthetically attractive, but they are quite as good for the job as boys. It is a capital way of employing those who are good for little else: a real help in the problem of unemployment. Mr. Churchill's suggestion that golf clubs should get into touch with the Labour Exchanges is good. Caddying is about the worst thing a boy can do, as it puts him out of love with all work. Clergymen too often have to lament the demoralising of the boys of the parish by caddying.

On Tuesday afternoon the shepherd of Dartmoor again emerged—this time into the Oswestry Police Court. Trusting to Mr. Churchill, he had ventured to steal four bottles of whisky on Saturday night, and to offer them for sale on the following Sunday morning. Naturally Mr. Bridgeman and Mr. Ormsby Gore are concerned for their constituents, among whom Mr. Davies is now discovered to have been loose for the past few weeks. A criminal who works under the protection of the Home Secretary is not altogether a joke; and Mr. Bridgeman was scarcely exceeding his duties as a representative in immediately bearding Mr. Churchill in the

House of Commons. Mr. Davies, if we are to believe a correspondent of the "Daily News", regards himself as peculiarly under the protection of Mr. Churchill. Seeing a photographer about to snapshot him in the Court, he threatened to lodge a complaint with the Home Secretary against the man. In feudal terms, Mr. Davies has "commended himself" to Mr. Churchill; and Mr. Churchill is henceforth "warranty" for his "man".

It is clear from the speech which Mr. Balfour made to the Junior Imperial and Constitutional League on Thursday that he will never hear of a compromise on Home Rule. Unionists who have played with the idea of federation are answered once for all. On the trick by which the Radical Government has planned to pass Home Rule over the heads of the electors, Mr. Balfour—who is not easily driven to strong language—did not spare his words. The plot, as he said, was too subtle to be understood by the country at the time; it was also too impudent to be credible. Mr. Balfour seemed at times to be speaking straight at the Unionist Home Rulers. Home Rule, he said, is pure retrogression, and it is absurd to compare the granting of Home Rule to Ireland with the constitutional movement in the Colonies, which is in precisely the opposite direction.

The military debate in the House of Lords was unsatisfactory from more points of view than one. The number of Peers who voted, 99 and 40, shows but little interest, considering the issues. Lord Roberts probably made the best speech of his life. Indeed, so convincing did his indictment seem that we wondered what Lord Haldane would find to say in defence of his policy. He adopted the very simple expedient of not answering Lord Roberts at all. All he did was to attack the proposals of the National Service League, and certain portions of the book recently published to refute Sir Ian Hamilton's fallacies, but not the part written by Lord Roberts himself. Contrary to his usual custom, the ex-Commander-in-Chief spoke from the Opposition side of the House instead of from the cross benches.

Rarely was there a greater *bêtise* than the affair of the new sash. Following closely on a pronouncement by the War Secretary that the pay of officers would in all probability have to be raised before long came the unexpected order that officers were to provide themselves with a new gold sash costing some six pounds. We were told by Mr. Seely that the innovation was a popular one. If so, we have been unfortunate in our search; for every officer to whom we have spoken has condemned the whole business in no measured terms. The question was raised in the House, with the result that the order has now been cancelled, and that claims for moneys already expended will be considered by the War Office. It is difficult to imagine a more ignominious volte-face. Still, the authorities did the only sensible thing in the circumstances. No doubt they will be more careful in future, for the days of useless finery are gone never to return, especially when the cost has to be borne by officers alone.

The Canadian Reciprocity agreement has got into the hands of the Washington politicians and, if it emerges at all, it may be so mangled that Canada may be compelled to refuse it. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Fielding are themselves beset with complications because of the Canadian hostility to the agreement, and they may not be sorry to see no more of it. The United States will have none of our interpretation of the most favoured nation clause; concession for concession, and no concession without an equivalent, is the Washington maxim; they will have nothing to do with our nerveless cosmopolitanism and hands all round regardless of Empire and alliances alike. If Sir Edward Grey thinks he can talk the United States into granting to British traders for nothing what they grant to Canada for equivalent, he will soon be undeceived. There is only one way of checkmating the Washington

manœuvre which aims at driving Canada outside the Imperial treaty system, and that way is to bring the States of the Empire into a system of trade partnership under preference so that they may jointly negotiate with the friendly foreigner.

Having no negotiating tariff with which to talk to Japan in a language it understands, Great Britain in the Anglo-Japanese treaty signed this week is left to the severity of the new duties with a minimum of modifications induced by a consideration of our feelings as a political ally. The "prefatory note" which has been attached to the White Paper laid this week before Parliament is a wilful attempt to throw dust in the eyes of the public. We are asked to contrast the new and higher duties, not with the expiring and lower duties, but with the purely fictitious "statutory" duties which the Japanese Parliament enacted as an unattainable maximum. The British manufacturer will have to pay much more in the way of duties if he succeeds in getting through the tariff barrier—that is the practical point, and every business man knows that those duties would have been much lessened had the British Government, with its enormous bargaining power, been able to impose duties upon the silk and other manufactures of Japan, of which we buy eight times as much as we did thirty years ago.

Business is business in the Far East. Here is a short extract from a letter of a Japanese merchant "picked up" and printed in the "Westminster Gazette":—"As 'Mr. Brown' is most religious and competent man, also heavily upright and godly, it fears me that useless apply for his signature—please therefore attach same by Y—office making forge, but no cause for fear of prison happenings, as this is often operated by other merchants of highest integrity. It is highest unfortunate John Smith so godlike man and excessive awkward for business purpose. I think more better add little serpent-like wisdom to upright manhood and thus found good business edifice."

Not too soon the Indian Government is operating by land and sea against the gun-runners of the Persian Gulf. The mischief done is already serious. The turbulent tribes of the Indian frontier are now armed with weapons of precision, and the consequences have appeared in raids and in risings which have harassed the border and cost many lives. The Ghilzai Afghans and their agents have even had the assurance to speak of compensation for the losses sustained last year from interruption of their trade and the seizure of smuggled rifles by our gunboats on the Mekran coast. The anarchy in Persia is greatly to blame. Large bodies of well-armed Afghan outlaws, defying opposition, march through Eastern Persia to the coast and there take over the rifles which are smuggled in native craft from Muscat; and there is no force in Persia to check this violation of its territory.

These expeditions may be useful as training for the forces engaged. But this is no adequate compensation for such very trying and costly operations. The obvious and only effective course is to cut off the supply of arms at the source. Muscat—the chief depot—gains by the trade. But the Sultan is too dependent on British protection to persist were he free to stop it. He is bound, however, by treaty with France, and the French will not consent to stop a traffic which is a source of much profit to their port on the Red Sea and to their dealers. The position is not creditable to a civilised power. Clearly it is a case for diplomacy rather than military operations. The worst feature of the business is that a great quantity of these arms come from England and are loaded in the Thames. Moreover, some time ago the bulk of the rifles were alleged to be from Australia, where a change in armament had thrown quantities of serviceable arms on the market.

The Austrian Reichsrath has been dissolved, and the country is to be left in peace until the autumn. Baron

Bienerth's luck turned at the end. The Slav obstructionist alliance had dissolved, and only the little group of Slovenes held out against the proposal to establish an Italian faculty at Trieste University. Suddenly they were joined by the powerful Christian Socialist Party, who scented a snub to the Papacy in the immediate execution of the project. A new majority could have been built up, no doubt, but only by the aid of bribes in the shape of public works. The Premier wisely preferred to be content with last year's Budget and Government by Paragraph 14, and the Emperor has approved his decision.

The inquiry into the police evidence given at the Clapham murder trial is concluded, but Mr. Cave has not yet made his report. The point is whether Morrison while at the police station really got to know, through any of the staff there, on what charge he was being detained. As to the Inspectors Ward and Wensley, who denied that Morrison was informed by them, Mr. Abinger has stated that he makes no reflection on their veracity and honour. If, as Constable Greaves states, Morrison was really informed, it is admitted that either the system is in fault, or some one broke the rules. This is the delicate question for Mr. Cave; and it is more delicate as Morrison's own evidence has to be considered. In his position one easily appreciates Mr. Cave's remark that it was not desirable he should be subjected to cross-examination. As to Morrison's appeal to the House of Lords, Sir Rufus Isaacs has explained that there is no point of law raised by the decision, and he has not the power for any other reason to grant permission to appeal.

Not only was the Suffragette resistance to the census a silly thing, but it is a silly thing that has failed. Mr. Burns, answering a question in the House of Commons, said that the number of individuals who have evaded enumeration is negligible. He treats what has happened as so unimportant that he does not intend to take any proceedings. He acts on the principle that the law does not trouble about what is of no consequence. With this census fiasco the game of self-advertisement may be considered played out. A certain kind of ingenuity in the earlier stages attracted attention. But the long series of little tricks has grown stale. The Suffragettes now make nothing but blunders. They seemed at first to have brains; but as they have evidently exhausted their resources, the "cause" had now better be left to a different class of women.

Now that S. James' Park has been saved by a general uprising of opinion, we hope that an equally effective criticism will be directed to the sculpture scheme for the memorial itself, whatever may be the new site. The strangely chosen people who arrange the artistic affairs of this country do not appear to have had a suspicion of the gross character of the scheme they had so lightly assented to. The material, marble, was wrong, the scale for the statue of the King absurd, the heaps of accessory figures mere surplusage, devised to spend a large sum of money. At least this huge mass of marble should not be accepted till the Queen Victoria memorial has been uncovered, and it is realised what we are in for, if that unlucky precedent be followed. An archway in the Mall, as has been suggested, would be infinitely better than the sort of huge retouched photograph of the King that official sculpture is likely to give us.

But if a statue of the King is considered necessary, let it be of the modest proportions that have hitherto sufficed for such memorials. The surplus money could be better applied in a score of different ways. One of these has not, we think, been so far suggested. King Edward set an example to the nation by establishing, through the National Arts Collection Fund, a special reserve fund for the purchase, under emergency, of works of art likely to be lost to the nation. It was largely through his encouragement that the Rokeby "Venus" was saved, and the sale of the Norfolk

Holbein was the occasion of the action we have just referred to. So far the only other subscriber to the King's Fund is King George. A third great emergency has come and has found us unprovided. Who can doubt that had a fund of £20,000 to £50,000 existed, the National Arts Collection Fund would have been moved to attempt to save even Rembrandt's "Mill"? And who can doubt that King Edward would have seen with pleasure some part of the memorial subscriptions devoted to a project started by himself and hitherto backed by no one else? The "Mill" was not the last of the emergencies; others will follow it quickly.

Mr. Frederic Harrison has made a very good suggestion for a "Loan Court" at the National Gallery. The thing exists already at the Victoria and Albert Museum, and it may be remembered that the Salting Collection, now a part of the museum, was once a loan. There are difficulties, no doubt; chiefly the fear that pictures so exhibited may be sold off the walls of the gallery; but provision can be made against the gallery losing a chance of purchase, and in some cases loans might become gifts. The scheme might well be applied to the Tate Gallery also, where extension is easier because of space. How interesting it would be to have occasional exhibitions of some of the painters, already represented, of Blake, Wilkie, Etty (as now at York), or, to make a jump, of Sargent or Steer. Mr. Aitken, as an old hand at loan exhibitions, could be trusted to make them interesting.

The sea has eaten into the land near Aldeburgh, and has laid bare a large hoard of early British coins and metal ornaments, strewing gold, silver and bronze over the shore. People have since been busy at the treasure, and a legal problem ensues. Treasure trove is subject to the verdict of a coroner's jury. The jury have first to decide whether the hoard was hidden of intent or accidentally. If of intent, then the finder and the Lord of the Manor must dispute it with the Crown. The foreshore, too, is debateable land. Here is a pretty problem. Meantime, it should be noted that archaeologically this is a valuable find.

The death of Mr. E. H. Pember K.C. takes us back to the great days of the parliamentary bar—his name was familiar among the giants, Pope, Littler, Bidder, Cripps, Balfour Browne. Those days are gone not to come back. Mr. Pember made a very effective figure in the committee rooms. His fine intellectual face well became the interesting blend in him of the keen lawyer and a great love of literature. He had a decided turn for verse, as his classical poems show, but he was not a poet.

With the sudden death of Mr. Moberly Bell there passes a certainly conspicuous figure of to-day—probably the most conspicuous of the "Times" personalities, at any rate to the outside world. Mr. Moberly Bell had the qualities of the modern hustler, and his physique agreed therewith. The large frame, thick-set shoulders and neck, the square massive face—all suggested precisely the qualities of character Moberly Bell had. He was essentially an "efficiency" man; and, so far as efficiency means energy and enterprise, efficient he was; and his efficiency was helped by a strain of native and racial slowness. Mr. Bell was the genius (we must say evil genius) of the new commercial departures of the "Times". His monument will not be so much the "Times" itself as the Book Club and the Encyclopædia.

Many—for who is not interested in the "Athenæum"?—must have been astonished, and perhaps hurt, when they read the paragraph in the "Times" this day last week stating that Sir Charles Dilke had by a codicil revoked the appointment of Mr. Vernon Rendall as a trustee of the "Athenæum" and "Notes and Queries". Everyone knows that on the literary side the "Athenæum" is just Mr. Rendall. One cannot think of the "Athenæum" being edited by anyone else. One need not.

ON THE RACK.

IT is a pity the public cannot follow more closely the cross-examination of Bills in Committee. Regular debates—long speeches antiphonic from either front bench—the country attends to—more or less. At any rate, it understands the proceeding and thinks it is all right. But when it comes to discussing the words of a clause—the leaving out of "if" in sub-section this, of inserting "and" in sub-section that, of putting "may" for "shall" in some other clause, the public shies off entirely, thinking the whole business intelligible only to those inside the House, and by no means sure it is intelligible to them. People are scared by the phraseology of the amendment with which every discussion in Committee begins. It certainly is enough to put a man, or even a woman, off, but if people would overlook the words of the amendment, not troubling the least about them, and go straight to what is said, they would find a great deal more to interest them than in the set speeches of second readings. These there is really no need for the public to consider at all. They have heard it all before, or read it, in platform speeches; most of it probably ad nauseum in election times. But when the House goes into Committee it drops speech-making and begins to talk, and very often to talk sense. There is more real discussion in an hour of Committee than in a day of Second Reading. Much is said purely on the spur of the discussion going on—it is not all set stuff prepared beforehand—and there is a real threshing out of subjects by the only thorough process—question and answer. Virtually Committee-stage is a series of questions by the Opposition which the Government answer as best they can. Naturally, it is the hottest ordeal a Government and a Bill can go through. It is the only chance the party in a minority have in these days, and it is seldom that a Government Bill gets through Committee unimpressed by the tooth-marks of the Opposition; generally there are marks on the Ministry as well.

The Parliament Bill has been in Committee only a week and the showing up has been significant enough. It was always a most important point whether the disability imposed on the Second Chamber was to persist after it had been reformed. The case against the House of Lords has always been that the Peers represent only themselves, and that they are what they are merely by right of birth. What right has a man to be born with the power to make laws for other people? The far more serious case against the House of Lords—that the right to legislate through a peerage is constantly given as a reward for party services, which mainly means cash for the party chest—the profound political genius of the English people—on which Liberal historians like Macaulay, J. R. Green, and Mr. C. M. Trevelyan love to expand—never trouble about. It is always that the House of Lords being hereditary must not interfere with the Lower House, which represents the people—it does not, but that does not matter for present purposes—and above all it must not touch a money Bill. That has been the Radical case throughout the length and breadth of the land, and always. Very well, grant that the case is sound, that democratic ideals cannot tolerate the present position. If you change the nature of the Second Chamber and make it no longer a House of Peers but elective, obviously all the argument piled up on the assumption of the hereditary and irresponsible character of the Upper House no longer applies. Democratic probity cannot demand the emasculation of an elective representative body.

Necessarily the disabilities imposed by the Parliament Bill on the House of Lords will not be imposed on the elective Second Chamber the Government are pledged to set up. But the Government had never committed themselves on the point. So the Opposition in Committee set to work to make them. They proposed a limitation of the time during which the Section as to Money Bills (Clause 2 had not been reached) should be operative; giving the Government three years in which to set up their new elective Second Chamber. After that was set up the disabling clause would not be

wanted. This got the Government into a hole immediately. They had to give some reason for not accepting the amendment. In Committee Ministers cannot get out of giving reasons. Either they had to avow they were going to treat their elective Second Chamber exactly as they are treating the irresponsible Lords, or they were never going to make a new Second Chamber at all and their preamble was a fraud. They must either accept the amendment or take up one of these two positions. Mr. Asquith took the former and solemnly declared that whatever happened to the Second Chamber the clause giving the House of Commons absolute control over money and leaving the Second Chamber with no power whatever as to money would stand permanently. Now we know where we are. All the talk about hereditary irresponsible legislation is shown to be dishonest bunkum. It will be, and would have been, just the same with a representative democratic Second Chamber. Seeing that almost every subject can be put in the form of a true money Bill, this means putting unlimited power in the hands of the Government—not of the House of Commons—indefinitely. For a Second Chamber on democratic lines cannot be a check on democracy, but it may be a check on the Ministry. So our democratic Ministry will take care that their Second Chamber shall come into a world that will deny it all use of its natural powers. If the country really get to understand this, the Government will feel the effect of it.

Naturally the Opposition were not going to rest there. They pressed their advantage and made the Government come out into the daylight on the whole matter of their preamble. One ministerial member had warned the Government that they would be swept from power if they did not make the disability of the Second Chamber permanent—not only as to money but as to everything else. This was making the preamble almost a farce. Did the Government mean business at all; was not the whole suggestion of a reformed Second Chamber merely an election campaigning affair? The good Sir Edward Grey had appeared to take it seriously, no doubt, and so had quieted some anxious moderate Liberals. But what had the Prime Minister to say? Well, before he could say anything, Sir Henry Dalzell had brutally given him away by cynically admitting, in effect, that the preamble was not meant to be taken seriously. Set up a new Second Chamber in this Parliament? Who ever thought of such a thing? The preamble was but a pious opinion and only said "hereafter". Hereafter was a long time off. (Sir Henry Dalzell does not talk Shakespearean English.) This was exactly what Unionists had always been saying—the preamble was not business. Mr. Asquith could not wriggle out. He dare not throw over Sir Edward Grey; so he had solemnly to affirm the Government's resolution to set up a reformed Second Chamber; but he could not say when. "As and when the proper time arrives." No wonder Unionists laughed. That time will be like the time for Alice's jam—"to-morrow, but never to-day." The motto for the preamble might well be: "To-morrow and to-morrow and to-morrow." No doubt Mr. Asquith will always have his excuse; the "proper time" will never have arrived. But the trick is obvious. It is now plain enough that the Government do not mean to make any new Second Chamber at all. It suits them much better to keep a paralytic House of Lords. They can then go on rewarding their faithful democrats with seats in the House of Lords carrying a coronet; they will have no Second Chamber to worry about, and the House of Commons they have in their power already. The Government look forward to a good time.

We must say it is rather difficult with this outlook to sympathise with Mr. Balfour's optimistic view of Parliament. He is too much a House of Commons man—it is his real defect—he seems to think that the House of Commons holds the place in the life of the country and in public opinion it did fifty years ago. There may be little decline in the personnel of the House either in ability or manner—there probably is very little—but that

there is as much independence in members or as much important debating in the House as was once, surely cannot be maintained. Whether Lord Hugh Cecil's proposal of secret voting in the House is the best remedy for the present distress is a very difficult question. It would certainly cut deep into the power both of the Whips and of the caucus. We are glad Lord Hugh divided the House. But whether popular representative government can be worked at all with any less drastic party system than now holds us we do not know. But we do know that we greatly dislike the system as it is.

THE ARCHER-SHEE CASE.

AN interesting and characteristic little prelude to the discussion of the Archer-Shee case in the House of Commons was played by the Labour-Socialist party on Thursday. The Chairman, following an attempt on the part of one of his party to burke discussion by moving to report progress after Mr. Cave had risen, proceeded to object to the whole day being "devoted to the discussion of a case of what was practically blackmailing the Treasury". We have here a foretaste of what will happen under a powerful bureaucracy to liberty. First a man will be wronged, and, when redress is sought, he will be described as a blackmailer.

The magnitude, of course, of a demand put forward for ten thousand pounds compensation is not the point, no more so than the pitiful theft of a five-shilling postal order is a measure of the importance of the case. When Mr. Cave agreed, as most sensible men will, that ten thousand pounds was too large a sum to be claimed, Mr. McKenna interjected "That is the only point". That is the typical bureaucrat's point of view, and it was torn to shreds in the fine judicial speech made by Mr. F. E. Smith. It is apparently nothing to Mr. McKenna's party that an act of the gravest injustice has been done without the responsibility being brought home. A boy of thirteen was suddenly and publicly faced with charges of forgery and theft. Nine days later the father, who had heard nothing whatever about the matter, was called upon to take him away. What assistance did this poor boy get during that interval? None, except to be made by the authorities a target of suspicion to some four hundred others. Mr. McKenna says he had a duty to the 399 other boys. Certainly, and he fulfilled it first by a defective judgment, which might have punished a boy for life—for it is not the fault of the Admiralty that the boy has been vindicated by the splendid persistence of Sir Edward Carson—by fastening on to him crimes which he never committed, secondly by defeating between October 1908 and July 1910 all efforts to rehabilitate the boy's character. Is this sort of thing likely to be beneficial to the other boys, such as Mr. Archer-Shee's schoolfellows, who sent him a round-robin at the time expressing their complete belief in his innocence? At the threshold of their naval career, will they look up with respect to a Board of Admiralty which shows itself incompetent to handle even an ordinary police court charge?

Mr. McKenna makes a great deal of what Mr. Cave described as "the very informal private inquiry" of the Judge Advocate, and he referred to it as exhibiting their one desire to get at the truth and act upon the truth. The Judge Advocate is a Government official whose appointment is in the gift of the First Lord of the Admiralty. He does not appear to have conducted his inquiry as a court of law would have done, and it was certainly in camera. We would contrast, for example, the police inquiry now being conducted by Mr. Cave himself at the instance of the Home Secretary. Mr. Cave is free from all taint of official influence or bureaucratic training, and is conducting his inquiry in public according to the methods of courts of law. The real truth is, the Admiralty spared no effort to treat the matter as the French Government were in the habit of treating the Dreyfus case, a thing that cannot and must not be re-opened. The solicitors suggested the names

of four ex-judges, any one of whom would have been accepted by the Archer-Shee family to try the case. Then an inquiry by Petition of Right, which is open to every private citizen, was held. At once the Government attempted to prevent the facts being gone into until the case had been argued as to whether the privileges of the Crown were being infringed. It was held that the cadets are officers though their names are not in the Navy List, they cannot like officers claim a court-martial, and the Admiralty would be puzzled to define the rank of cadets who can be ordered about by selected petty officers. The Attorney-General says "the Crown's rights in this case are the interests of the community". Officials always think themselves the community, just as Radical orators always talk as if they had the people in their pockets. The present Attorney-General was successful in the first instance, but the boy's family was rich enough to carry the case to the Court of Appeal. This Court chose to expedite the hearing of the appeal, and decided that the case must be tried at once. It commenced on Tuesday 26 July 1910. For four days the Admiralty fought on, and it was not until a repudiation of responsibility had been made by the captain of the college that Sir Rufus Isaacs threw up the case. He declared the boy innocent "without any reserve of any description, intending that it shall be a complete justification of the statement of the boy and the evidence he has given to the Court". Mr. F. E. Smith referred to the judges as the only bulwark against bureaucracy, and quoted a famous utterance of a great judge. It is quite conceivable that the precipitate Admiralty surrender was made to avoid scathing judicial comment. Thus the Archer-Shee family had to fight at great cost from 17 October 1908 to 26 July 1910. If the boy had been poor, and it is the poor on whom the real tyranny of bureaucracy will ultimately press, he would not have stood the ghost of a chance. He would have been branded as a thief and a forger for the rest of his life. Even after the complete collapse of their case the shifts of bureaucracy were not ended. On 10 March 1911 they had not advanced beyond an offer to pay the taxed costs of the boy's legal expenses, and they added insult to injury on that date by reviving a letter of 22 August 1908 in which it was intimated to the father that "the reports which have been received on the progress which he (Mr. Archer-Shee) has been making in his studies are not entirely satisfactory". How absurd to drag up such a matter—and all the more so when we see, as was brought out, that twenty-six similar notices were sent to other boys during 1908. So the Admiralty, face to face with Parliament, have referred the boy's case to arbitration.

From 26 July 1910 to 6 April 1911 parliamentary machinery has not allowed of a single attempt to arraign the Admiralty. Discussion would still have been burked had not Mr. Balfour asked for the Admiralty vote in order to discuss this case. The Admiralty vote has never before been discussed since the Radicals came into office in 1905. Their extraordinary bureaucratic methods commenced at once. There has been misleading information from first to last. In 1906 they printed hundreds of copies of private letters attacking two distinguished admirals and a member of Parliament, and dragging in for the purposes of the attack the name of King Edward. In 1907 they searched the confidential records of a service M.P.'s career, in order to arm a hostile fellow member with material to attack him concerning a trumpery torpedo-boat collision for which he had taken the responsibility thirteen years before. These things were all typical of the vindictive licence of bureaucracy unchecked by Parliament. For the first time the cumbrous machinery of the House of Commons has moved in the Archer-Shee case. It has given the Admiralty and all other Government Departments a bad fright, but it has not succeeded in doing what our contemporary "The Nation" demanded, in connexion with the Archer-Shee case last autumn, break the official on whom the working responsibility rests. In

the best Pecksniffian vein Mr. McKenna is able to get up and tell the House of Commons how he might have made the case against the boy stronger, but in his mercy he refrained, and "the only point" before the House is whether he is an efficient guardian of the public purse in the matter of compensation. And so he draws the Radical cheers. To fight such men in velvet gloves is an absurdity. So we prefer the plain speaking of Mr. F. E. Smith, and others might profit by his example. No mercy should be shown in such cases as the Admiralty and the Archer-Shee scandal, the actions of the President of the Board of Education behind the scenes, the Secretary of State for War's publications for moulding opinions, and the exploiting by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Home Secretary of criminals for political purposes.

THE PRICE OF PEACE.

OUR military problem has dissolved itself into two logical alternatives. All other issues are of secondary importance. We must either be prepared to meet our Imperial and national responsibilities with our land as well as our sea forces, or we must be content, like Belgium or Holland, to be out of the running. We adopt neither of these standpoints at present. Instead we cling to an attitude which is neither sound nor logical. We admit our responsibilities, and most of us wish to remain a great Power. But we shirk the liabilities of the position. Until recently we boasted of a two-Power standard at sea. Now we are content with a bare one-Power standard; and whilst the weakness of our military forces was only too clearly demonstrated in the South African War, we are satisfied now with the meretricious improvisations which the brain of an ingenious lawyer has invented to calm our anxieties. That they are adequate no independent expert admits for one moment. But we have heard them so often repeated that it would seem as if the nation, possibly through sheer weariness, has come to regard them as settled facts. This, we suppose, is inevitable with any question which does not become a matter of party politics. If it once entered into that arena, what is now really an academic subject would be clothed with flesh and bones. But although some leading politicians, such as Lord Curzon and Mr. Wyndham, have committed themselves to some definite opinions on the topic of national service, no official leader has yet ventured to take the plunge. We can hardly blame them for this. It would not be a popular party cry, at any rate at first. But we still believe that the opposition or apathy on this head is mainly ignorant. The institution of national service is really a most democratic measure. The duke's son and the cook's son would have to serve alike. So the opposition of the Labour party, for instance, is quite illogical. In the present state of affairs, however, such details are unnecessary. We have already repeated them ad nauseam. It is time we regarded the matter from a broader standpoint.

The comparative ease with which we emerged from the Napoleonic menace has had far-reaching consequences. We were then in a financial position we can never again hope to reach. We were so rich that we could afford to finance other nations to break the back of Napoleon's power. It is true that we actually undertook one prolonged campaign, the Peninsula, towards this end. But the stress and horror of war never really came home to us, with the result that, unlike any other great nation in Europe, we do not know, even to this day, what war really means. The South African war, big struggle though it was, did not enlighten us. We had to pay a little more income-tax, but not much more than we pay at present in a period of profound peace. But what we do not realise is that our position is now vastly different from what it was in the Napoleonic days. We have no longer a great supremacy in wealth; and whilst in those days our Army was, as regards size at

any rate, comparable with those of other nations, it is now altogether a negligible quantity, simply because other nations, unlike us, have realised that some sacrifices, other than those of mere monetary contribution, are necessary in order that a nation may maintain its position. There can be no doubt that since the South African war demonstrated our inability to cope at once with an amateur army, such as the Boers placed in the field, our prestige has gradually declined, and our voice in European affairs is less potent, as the recent Austrian crisis amply proved. Even our one remaining asset, the predominance of the Navy, is not nearly so effective as it was. Yet we take no steps to remedy the defect. Our Ministers still commit themselves to meaningless trivialities about universal peace in order to please their peace at any price supporters. One would suppose that the very sensible speech of the German Chancellor would dispel all such illusions. But it has not. Yet Herr von Bethmann Hollweg put the whole matter in a nutshell when he told the Reichstag that "whoever impartially and earnestly thinks out the question of disarmament, thinks it out to its logical issue, must come to the conclusion that it is insoluble so long as men are men, and States are States". Let our false peace prophets also realise this. An England strong on land as well as on sea would be an incalculable factor towards the preservation of the world's peace. We should then be able to hold the balance as between various European States or combination of States. No one in these days desires an aggressive policy. But the doctrines of peace are almost as far reaching as the victories of war. It is now forty years since Germany has engaged in war, except as regards small operations in East Africa. The predominating position in Europe is maintained because of the knowledge that she is strong; and that, unlike ourselves, on the conclusion of big undertakings, she has not prated about the impossibility of future wars, but has taken care to increase her military resources instead of letting them dwindle.

One of the most pertinent arguments Lord Roberts adduced, both in his speech in the House of Lords and in the book* which has recently been published under his auspices, is that the money which would be spent on inaugurating a system of national service would be spent in the country and would circulate accordingly. It would thus be a trivial premium to pay towards insuring us against war, compared with what we should have to pay if a Jena or a Sedan befell us, when a solid indemnity would have to be paid out of the country, apart from the incalculable losses which would fall on us incidentally. To Lord Roberts' tremendous exposure of our present military preparations—an army no bigger than it was when the South African war proved its inadequacy so clearly that troops had to be withdrawn from India, and this country was denuded of regulars; a weaker and younger militia, though under a different name; and a volunteer force, not stronger, if possibly better trained, yet still not nearly well trained enough for the purpose of its existence—what has Lord Haldane to say? No clever Minister of the Crown ever made a more feeble reply on an occasion of this magnitude. Lord Roberts' arguments were unanswerable. So Lord Haldane left them alone. Instead, he favoured the House with a criticism of the alternative scheme, which he maintained was impracticable for two reasons. Compulsion would affect adversely recruiting for the regular Army, and the cost would be prohibitive. The first point is one of conjecture alone. But in our opinion, and as Lord Roberts has shown in his book, the probabilities are all the other way. Cost, we admit, is a great factor; but we still hold that the War Office view as to its extent is gross exaggeration, and to this point we shall return on some future occasion. But as touching the main thesis of the argument, Lord Haldane had nothing to say, for the simple reason that Lord Roberts' thesis, which has over and over again been insisted upon by

ourselves, is unassailable. The time, however, for minute criticism of the details of the rival schemes has passed. It is also beside the mark for Government speakers to criticise the dead and gone plans of Lord Midleton and Mr. Arnold Forster. What we have now to bring home to the nation is the necessity of our being able in the future to exercise an influence in the affairs of the world, towards the preservation of peace, and towards the maintenance of our own Empire. Unless we reconsider our whole military position *de novo*, we shall very soon become a negligible quantity in the world.

THE INFAMIES OF THE FEATHER TRADE.

THE Plumage Bill which Mr. Percy Alden re-introduced in the House of Commons last month is to come up for a second reading at once. Let us see what kind of men are the opponents of this humane and necessary measure, and the methods they employ in futile attempts to justify their ugly conduct.

The main object of the Plumage Bill is to close the London market to the sale of smuggled feathers and skins of wild birds, and thereby to rescue from extinction a few of the beautiful birds of the world which are being done to death in the millinery interest. It is almost inconceivable that this infamous traffic in looted feathers should have been allowed to continue unchecked for so many years in a country that prides itself on straight dealing and commercial integrity; equally difficult of belief is it that opponents of the Plumage Bill should have been hoodwinked into accepting as a "British industry which must not be interfered with or jeopardised" an illegal traffic marked by the most revolting cruelty, dependent for its existence in a very large measure on smuggling, robbery and corruption, carried on in semi-secrecy and maintained by a small coterie of Jew dealers actuated by a spirit of commercial lawlessness which one associates with the bad old days of open piracy.

By what specious arguments, we ask these feather traders, do they seek to prove their slaughter-rights of the rare birds of the world? What mandate do they possess for selling for profit wild birds which they know have been smuggled out of the Colonies in contravention of the laws framed for their protection? On whose authority is such trading entitled a "British industry"? By what colour of conscience does any man in or out of Parliament feel himself irresistibly impelled to encourage and abet this mean and selfish interest in an illegal traffic which is rapidly bringing about the destruction of one of the natural resources of the world? We say emphatically the birds of the world are no more the property of one merchant or a group of merchants than the slaves of America were the property of the traders who bound them in servitude in the course of their "legitimate and honest trade". Wild birds belong to the countries in which Nature placed them; and the greatest price they could fetch, dead and marketed, could not be weighed against their loss to the agriculture and forestry of the countries which do their utmost to preserve them. But it is a fact that in small quantities wild birds are comparatively valueless. To satisfy the greed of the traders, rare birds must be butchered in their thousands and tens of thousands before the "British industry" is able to yield sufficient gold to make the discreditable trade worth following. On what a fearful scale the slaughter must be pursued is seen in the case of humming birds. During last year 37,603 humming birds were catalogued for sale at the London feather sales. What prices did they realise per skin? In a sale held in August 635 skins fetched 1d. apiece, and 1600 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Towards the end of the year humming birds realised the following prices per skin: 1680 at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 846 at 1d., 1420 at $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1270 at one-eighth of a penny, and 4035 at one-sixteenth of a penny. We have referred to the semi-secret conditions under which this feather bartering is conducted. We should be glad to be informed whence arises the necessity for

* "Fallacies and Facts." London: Murray. 1911. 2s. 6d.

a procedure so little associated with a "British industry". We should like to know why the casual visitor to the gloomy charnel house in Cutler Street, Houndsditch, where the plundered skins and feathers are on view previously to being sold in Mincing Lane, is regarded with such suspicion? Why he is scanned and questioned so closely? Why he finds it so difficult to obtain a catalogue, even after he has given his name and address? It is no wonder that the appearance of the casual visitor in the Cutler Street sepulchre is a matter for astonishment on the part of its guardians, for the sales are so charily advertised that very few could be expected to know when they take place. And no publication of the reports of these sales is now allowed to appear in the official journal. Shy, discreet fellows, these traders.

Why this veil of secrecy over an "industry" the opponents of the Plumage Bill are so zealous in supporting and so anxious to see continue? Because, we suppose, of its reckless destruction and sickening cruelty. This is not generally realised or the agents of this callous devastation would have no sympathisers. The trade has no word of reproach for those whose greed provoked the extermination, but a few years ago, of the Royal and Leash Terns along the Atlantic coasts of the United States. It rejoices that a demand from London for the wings of these birds sent gunners and fishermen ravaging the coasts till the last tern had been swept out of existence; though when the avid hunters first appeared the birds were there in such numbers that the supply seemed inexhaustible. We read: "They were shot when sitting on their eggs or hovering fearfully over their young, the wings were chopped off, and the birds, often wounded only, thrown aside. The stench from the decaying bodies polluted the air inland for miles." Are the dull objectors to the Plumage Bill which would put an end to these atrocities unmoved by the clubbing to death on their nests of hundreds of thousands of albatrosses on the remote islands in the North Pacific, to which these birds repair to breed? Do they connive still at the practical annihilation of the white heron in North America and in China? Do they regard with an equanimity inseparable from the contemplation of a thriving "British industry" the imminent total destruction of the birds of Paradise, the Impeyan pheasants, the lyre birds, and other beautiful species of the world's avifauna?

There is a good deal more to be said about this precious trade, and very much more to be said about the traders; and we mean to say it. These miserable greedy destroyers think they can frighten Parliament out of passing the Plumage Bill. Let Parliament and the public know more about them—know but a little of the truth—and the fright will be elsewhere.

THE CITY.

THE nineteen-day account which is now drawing to a close has belied its reputation. Superstition has it that nineteen-day accounts are profitable only to those who have the courage to sell "short"; but this has been a "bull" period until near the end, for not until Wednesday did profit-taking cause a reactionary tendency. It is possible that business will be comparatively quiet next week in view of the Jewish Passover and the Easter holidays, but there is nothing in the present condition of the markets to suggest that the public appetite for investment securities and high-class speculative stocks has been satisfied. The continued upward movement in home rails, Canadian Pacifics, and other favoured stocks of good repute has been conducted in a decorous manner. Realisations in one direction have been easily absorbed, while renewed buying in another has caused a further spurt; in fact, the speculative appetite in the railway market has had a slight change of diet almost every day, without going to excess on any particular dish.

Gilt-edged securities have also been well supported. The sinking fund purchases of Consols have left the market bare of stock, and the quarterly interest distribu-

tions on the funds, India sterling loans and Bank of England stock provided a further supply of investment money. The explanation of the remarkable firmness of the markets after such a prolonged improvement is that by far the greater proportion of the stock purchased has been taken up. Another noteworthy feature in the City is the success of new issues coincident with market activity. As a general rule the rapid absorption of new loans is accompanied by dulness or even weakness among the older securities on account of the diversion of available capital; but such is not the case at the present time. The new Brazilian loan was so largely over-subscribed that some applicants received only two per cent. of their requirements. The Central London issue of 4½ per cent. preference stock at par has also been heavily over-subscribed, and these results are naturally encouraging other flotations. It is, however, a singular and gratifying fact that while well-secured investments are selling like the proverbial hot cakes, new companies of a highly speculative nature are meeting with a cool reception. In the usual order of events this state of things will change when the present investment demand has been satisfied. Inquiry for stocks and shares should then become diverted into more speculative channels.

The reaction of the last few days has counteracted the rise in home rails, but the effect of the realisations will probably be shown in a comparatively easy carry-over which should prepare the way for a revival soon after the holidays. Canadian Pacifics have reached a figure at which many holders of stock could secure very handsome profits, but the yield obtainable and the fine prospects of the company, which were the subject of pointed comment in this column when the price was 30 points lower, still prevent any appreciable liquidation. An increase of \$319,000 in gross traffics for the last week in March is reported. The Grand Trunk increase of £2600 in gross receipts was considered particularly good in view of the exceptional gain of £46,000 in the corresponding week of last year, and some sharp bidding for the ordinaries and third prefs. ensued. Hudson's Bays have been subjected to some profit-taking on the announcement of the record land sales for the whole year ended 31 March; but having regard to the splendid prospects for the company during the next few years a further considerable improvement may be anticipated. The annual report is not due until the middle of June. Last year the total dividend amounted to £4 per £10 share, and it will not be surprising if this year the figure is raised to at least £5 10s. per share. The only drawback to this stock is its comparatively limited market, which would, however, be overcome if the shares were split into the £1 denomination, as has been suggested.

The American market is still in a very nervous state about the decisions of the Supreme Court on the Trust cases, but it is highly improbable that adverse judgments will cause a prolonged decline, as there is no bull account open. Among foreign rails, Mexican Railway stocks have attracted chief attention, not so much in connexion with the dividend just declared as with the outlook for the current year.

The mining markets are now a little firmer, but without any notable increase of business. The Paris settlement was arranged without any untoward incident such as had been feared, and a few buying orders, mostly Continental, have been received for the best Kaffirs and Rhodesians. Rubber shares are stronger also now that the price of raw material has somewhat recovered, and the declaration of some record dividends has drawn a little more attention to the position of the plantation industry.

Oil shares have likewise been in some request, but the last few days have witnessed a disposition to secure small profits. In the industrial market, Omnibus stock has reacted on well-advised profit-taking, though many people still believe that a tacit agreement has been effected with the underground railways as to fares.

INSURANCE.

THE SCOTTISH LIFE OFFICE.

TWO events in the insurance world are notable. A mutual life assurance society, founded at Edinburgh in 1815, has succeeded in accumulating a second ten million pounds in the way of funds, while a proprietary office, established in the same city in 1881, has marked the completion of its sixth quinquennium by a striking announcement. Of these two events the second is the more important, because it makes an entirely fresh departure in life assurance practice in this country. At one time the patrons of proprietary institutions were satisfied with two-thirds of the profits resulting from their contributions to the participating fund, but the proportion taken by the proprietors had gradually been reduced until 10 per cent. had become a general rule. Even that comparatively modest percentage is now likely to be regarded as excessive. Under the scheme sanctioned by the shareholders of the Scottish Life Assurance Company Limited, policyholders will in future receive 95 per cent. of the profits arising from life and annuity business, subject to the one provision that for the current quinquennium, 1910-15, any proportion from 92½ to 95 per cent. may be given to them. An advance of this nature must obviously re-act on methods elsewhere. People are naturally inclined to patronise those offices which can be seen to offer the greater advantages, and the step now taken will undoubtedly result in the Scottish Life obtaining a large accession of new business, unless its effect be neutralised by corresponding action on the part of the Boards of rival companies.

It certainly does seem surprising that an innovation of such consequence should have been made by a company which has only just completed its thirtieth year. Most persons in the insurance world anticipated that the first move would be taken by an old and opulent London office, but it must not be overlooked that the management of the Scottish Life has been marked from the outset by a determination to set the pace. The first valuation, in 1886, was made with 3½ per cent. interest for the assurances and 3¾ per cent. for the annuities, and at that time such rates were almost the lowest in use. On the next occasion a 3½ per cent. rate was employed throughout; in 1896 there was a further reduction to 3¼ per cent., and at the end of 1900, when the investigation covered a period of four years and seven months, the actuarial position permitted of a 3 per cent. rate being used. Even then the aspirations of the directors were not satisfied, as in 1905 the OM and OM (5) tables of mortality were substituted for the HM table previously employed, and the OA table was applied to the annuities, instead of the Government (1883) experience. At most, not more than three or four life offices have been able to submit their affairs to such a test at the end of twenty-five years, and the merit attaching to the performance was enhanced by the regular declaration of bonuses at the high rate of £2 per cent. per annum for each completed year of assurance after the first.

This splendid record is still unbroken. At the recent investigation conducted by Mr. A. Fraser, the actuary, the 1905 valuation bases were adhered to, and his calculations showed that a total profit of £176,902 had been realised during the five years. As £5621 had already been divided as interim bonuses, an amount of £171,281 was available—just sufficient to enable the directors to maintain the unique record, and leave £3384 to be carried forward unappropriated. We say "unique", because no other company, so far as we are aware, ever managed to declare the same bonus on the first six consecutive occasions, although a few life offices have done almost as well. Sooner or later, no doubt, the directors of the Scottish Life will be compelled by circumstances to increase or decrease their allotments, but at present there is clearly no reason to anticipate any falling off from the existing high standard. At the moment the status of this office is unchallengeable. Something like 4 per cent. net is being earned on the funds, and the total cost of management, commission included, works out at about 15½ per

cent., notwithstanding the new business return filed in compliance with the provisions of the Life Assurance Companies Act, 1909, shows that the new premiums, including the annual value of the single premiums, received in 1910 represented about one-tenth of the £176,392 raised during the year. It is manifest, moreover, that the quality of the business obtained is exceptionally good. Only comparatively small sums have so far had to be found to meet death claims, and in almost every year a large profit has resulted from suspended mortality—a result that can reasonably be attributed to the care taken in selecting lives for assurance. In most years, as a matter of fact, the return upon the investments has proved sufficient to meet all claims by death and survivorship, and the £1,616,122 now in the life assurance represents the great bulk of the sum contributed by policyholders and annuitants.

"PASSERS BY."

I HAVE in my mind's eye an old gentleman, ruddy and prosperous, of comfortable build, with a kind forehead and benignant manners, sitting in the stalls at Wyndham's Theatre to witness the new play of Mr. Haddon Chambers. He is wearing spectacles, and for me these spectacles are of extreme interest and importance. All through the four acts of "Passers By" I watched them scrupulously. I noticed them first when Nighty, the cabman, discovered that Mr. Waverton was human. The spectacles were at this precise moment between the old gentleman's fingers, and he was dusting them gently with a pocket-handkerchief. It was a crisis.

A few months ago I pointed out in a review of the autumn season, which was written round Sir Charles Wyndham's revival of "The Liars", that the successful play of the present was the "human" play. No one knows this better than Mr. Du Maurier. Last autumn he staged the most "human" play of the season—"Nobody's Daughter"; and it was a most fortunate piece of management. "Passers By" is still more "human". It is full of poignant little scenes, glad little scenes, little bursts of laughter, little storms of tears, little triumphs, little failures. There are no problems, no strong wringing of the heart. All is done lightly and easily—a perfection of the sentimental. If the little boat of passion is upset, the shore is never far to reach; and the bitterest breath is a breath of winter strayed into an April day. Observe that simply to write of such a play is to fall naturally into vain prettiness. Actually to see such a play is to love all the world until next we meet it.

It remains briefly to tell the story of the spectacles. So far as I could judge they were not affected to any serious degree until the arrival of Margaret Summers. Margaret was found outside Mr. Waverton's door on a night so foggy that it was impossible for her to think of getting home. She was brought in out of the cold by Mr. Waverton, and when she began to make a special point of keeping her veil down it was clear there would soon be something interesting. Margaret, in fact—fortuitously reclaimed from the fog—was once "everything" to Mr. Waverton; and, before the veil has been lifted very long, Mr. Waverton learns that there has been a little boy. Margaret had called the little boy "Peter". Mr. Waverton's name was Peter. I looked rapidly at the old gentleman. The spectacles were off again; this time they were being thoroughly wiped and polished. By the time they were again adjusted Mr. Waverton had given up his own comfortable bedroom to Margaret, and had arranged to spend the hours till morning in a smoking suit upon the sofa. The spectacles were safe till at the end of the act Mr. Waverton settled pensively to a minute scrutiny of the photograph of Beatrice. Mr. Waverton was engaged to Beatrice; and Margaret was sleeping in Mr. Waverton's room. On this occasion the curtain caught the spectacles just in time.

From this moment onwards it would be tedious to write in detail the story of the spectacles. They

faithfully recorded all the crises of the play. The cataclysms increased in violence as the evening advanced. When Mr. Waverton met the little boy, and showed him a clock and a picture book, and was shy and proud and all that a "human" father should be; when Margaret played the tune she had played on the evening when first she met Peter's father; when Beatrice yielded up Mr. Waverton to Margaret because she nobly understood that Margaret was his true mate—on these occasions the old gentleman shook his spectacles as a cornet player shakes his cornet and for a similar reason, namely, to be rid of the moisture. The spectacles, of course, were not alone concerned with Mr. Waverton and his love-story. Mr. Waverton was not the only "human" man in the play. Everyone in the play was human. Pine, Mr. Waverton's servant, committed himself to the opinion that at bottom everyone in the world was human. Pine himself would have excepted Samuel Burns, who was one of the congenitally unemployable; but this was mere prejudice. Samuel was as human as the rest; and more than once he powerfully affected the spectacles, as when he found a friend in Little Peter. Pine was human to the extent of entertaining Nighty, the cabman, out of sheer love for life and human company, with his master's whisky and cigars in his master's room; and Nighty had only to talk of his old 'oss to be at once found human. Even Aunt Amelia, who had cruelly separated Mr. Waverton and Margaret, and kept them apart by fraud, relaxed at last on the telephone and was sealed of the tribe.

Were the spectacles right or wrong? Should the old gentleman have been ashamed of himself for allowing Mr. Chambers' play to open the floodgates of his eyes?—or was his sensitiveness a credit to him? To put it a little differently, is the "humanity" of "Passers By" the real thing? Real or not, it is a move in the direction of a better type. The "humanity" of this kind of play is quite an agreeable attenuation of the real thing. And "Passers By" is the best of its type I have yet seen. Mr. Waverton's meeting with Margaret is really good drama in comparison with the general run of such encounters. It is awkward and shy—the gradual thaw of memories and feelings that have been long frozen. Mr. Waverton's introduction to Little Peter is in the same vein. There is all through a nearer contact with life and the behaviour of real people. All this is reflected in the general treatment of the secondary characters. Samuel Burns, a sketch by Mr. Chambers of the "unemployable", would alone save the play from being put among the common run. How well we know the old stage man of rags given an easy "place" in the house of a kind gentleman! How grateful he always was for his new "start", and how speedily he was redeemed! But Samuel Burns was not grateful to Mr. Waverton at all. He was all against changes. He was miserable for the loss of his old rags, and he felt he had lost his identity with the removal of his filthy beard. As to his work, Burns summed himself up on that matter with no help from his new friends; "Work's for workmen", he said. So Burns of the "arrested mental development" went happily back to his ways, a child whom no one had really touched but Little Peter.

Yes; there is something to be said for the spectacles, if only because Margaret was Miss Irene Vanbrugh, beautifully "human" from end to end of the play. All the players made the most of their "humanity". They played finely up to one another. "You have a heart", said Mr. Waverton to Beatrice as he left her to comfort Margaret, who at that moment thought her little boy was lost in London. Was this in the text?—or was it the reminder of a skilful chief to one of his cast to omit no opportunity for improving the occasion? In any case, Beatrice could not have responded more magnificently to the call. What an opportunity for a woman with a heart! Here was Margaret, to whom she must lose her own dear Peter; but . . . she had a heart. She had been expressly reminded of it. The scene that followed was all that could be desired or expected from the premises.

I should not like to be suspected of being personal.

Now that the spectacles have served their turn, let me confess that the old gentleman is entirely imaginary. He is, in fact, the audience at Wyndham's.

P.J.

MEDIÆVAL SCULPTURE IN FRANCE.

By ROYALL TYLER.

II.

UNTIL towards the middle of the twelfth century the Domaine Royal lagged behind the country south of the Loire, Burgundy and Normandy. Louis VI. strengthened the Crown by enlisting the towns in its service against the vassals and prepared the way for the building of great secular churches that began before the close of his reign. The astonishing rapidity with which an entirely new style is formed in this region when once social conditions are favourable is chiefly due to the northern architects' knowledge of the ogival vault. The porch and east end of S. Denis were finished before 1150; the east end of Notre-Dame of Paris and important portions of Sens, Laon, and Senlis, to mention well-known churches only, were built within the next thirty years. Thus before the twelfth century had completed all its most remarkable monuments in the South, Gothic cathedrals were rising up in the Ile-de-France. There is no abrupt break between the style of sculptured decoration in the first great northern churches and in contemporary Romanesque buildings in the South. Take the triple west porch of Chartres, by far the most important assemblage of mid-twelfth century sculpture in the Domaine Royal. From fragments that remain of the old decoration of the porch of S. Denis it is clear that its style was the same as that of the west door at Chartres. The church of S. Loup-de-Naud, near Provins, has a well-preserved porch in precisely the same manner, and fragments from other places show that the same style prevailed at the time throughout the Domaine Royal. Casts of large parts of these monuments may be compared at the Trocadéro.

On the whole this sculpture is technically finer than anything in Burgundy or the South, excepting the Toulouse capitals and a few other isolated fragments such as the jambs of Charlieu. In spite of great likeness in the manner of treating decorative motives, there is a decided change in the spirit of the whole that comes out most strongly in the general composition of the doorway. Instead of crowding all his figure sculpture into a top-heavy tympanum, the man who designed the Royal (west) Portal of Chartres reserved this place for Our Lord surrounded by the Evangelists' beasts, and placed large standing figures on the faces of the columns in the jambs. These figures are lengthened and narrowed out of all resemblance to the proportions of the human body with the definite purpose of giving expression to the supports. Thus the porch gains enormously in symmetry, and the disposition that was to be followed throughout the Gothic period is determined in its essentials. The individual figures are far simpler and more lifelike than the angels and saints of Moissac and Vézelay, and the folds of their dresses are no longer used in a purely arbitrary manner for the sake of a decorative play of lines. Nobility and beauty of face and form are achieved; witness the magnificent Solomon and Queen of Sheba now at S. Denis, which once adorned a church at Corbeil, but are so near the Chartres work in style that they may well be by the same hand. The same ardour for technical refinement and simplification, the same conscientiousness in suppressing all excess in the parts of a composition, informs such later twelfth-century sculpture as has survived in the Domaine Royal. Art in the North was not always to maintain so austere a bearing, but it seems that, before unbending, it wished to rebuke the riotous South.

The Royal Porch at Chartres belonged to a cathedral the rest of which was destroyed by lightning, just as it was nearing completion, in 1194. Immediately afterwards the present church was begun, and great part of the sculpture in the north and south porches

dates from the first half of the thirteenth century. Following the lines laid down by the west doorway, the large figures are applied to columns, but they approach natural proportions and their attitudes are grave but life-like. What is most striking about them is their unity of style and the cult of simplification that carried their makers away from the stylised forms and drapery in fashion a generation earlier. As architectural sculpture they are unsurpassed; later schools produced statues that are more charming and richer in individual beauty, but none nobler or more harmoniously attuned to the church they adorn. These large figures are exceedingly beautiful in their proud simplicity, even when seen in casts and away from their own surroundings; but to realise how great they are, how serene and lordly an understanding of the fundamental problems of art they record, it is necessary to dwell upon them as they stand backed by their cathedral.

Chartres, with its west and lateral porches, tells more about sculpture in the *Domaine Royal* from 1150 to 1250 than any other church or assemblage of churches. The façades of Amiens and Notre-Dame also contain very beautiful early thirteenth-century work, but their lateral doors take us on to the days of S. Louis and his immediate successors. Never has there been a happier time for art. There stood the newly completed cathedrals with their ample portals; and, instead of being bedevilled by more or less enlightened and critical patrons with views and tastes of their own, French sculptors were given good pay, a free hand, and plenty of work by princes, spiritual and temporal, like S. Louis, Henri de Braine, and Evrard de Fouilloy, who had the discernment to be liberal with money and ask no questions. In connexion with the Parisian school we know several artists' names. Pierre de Montereau undoubtedly designed doorways, though it is uncertain whether he actually turned out any sculpture. Then there is Jean de Chelles who signed the south transept door of Notre-Dame and may well have been father to Pierre de Chelles who carved Philippe le Hardi's tomb at S. Denis some forty years later. We also know Jean Ravy, Jean de Huy and other notable men of the day. It is impossible to study their work without becoming aware of strong and distinct personalities within the easily recognisable schools formed round the churches where many sculptors were employed. Indeed this period's art gains in individuality, expression and charm what it loses in monumental effect. At Rheims unity of style is no longer possible, this great assemblage of sculpture, begun about 1260 and continued into the fourteenth century, shows that its authors were wholly absorbed by the more personal aspects of their art. In their hands sculpture is no longer content to serve architecture or even to work side by side with it towards the same end, but tends to take the form of independent statuary. Rheims marks the point at which the disintegrating forces of individual ideas became strong enough to destroy all possibility of the understanding between builder and decorator that made Chartres a triumph of unswerving purpose and deliberate sacrifice of everything foreign to the central conception.

Sixteenth-century reaction against the joyful art of two centuries before doubtless accounts for almost as many bare portals as does the Revolution. The Huguenots mutilated wherever they went, but Catholics themselves were better disposed to represent the Devil helping a man to carve a female figure than to defend the sculpture of a more tolerant age. Still, enough remains to give a complete idea of its character. To imagine that the study of Roman models was the principal factor in the formation of this school would be to misunderstand it hopelessly. There were a few sculptors who knew and loved the Roman convention above all others, it is true, but many more developed the style they had inherited from the twelfth century, modifying it continually by working from life, which they observed with most moving freshness and sincerity. Among the blessed in the Doom in the west porch of Bourges Cathedral a lovely naked girl steps forward smiling, and near her are many other superb

nude figures. Rheims abounds in studies of every human type sculptors of that day could have seen. Of religious fervour I see very little or, to be quite truthful, none at all in the best work. Love of life and gladness for the beauty and wonder of this world filled the hearts of these matchless stone-cutters—lathomi, as they called themselves—so full that there was no room for the fear of Hell.

The latter part of the fourteenth century and the first half of the fifteenth were distressful times in the *Domaine Royal*. Better work was done in the South where, after a long eclipse, sculpture again appears radiant in Bordeaux Cathedral, the Chapelle de Rieux at Toulouse, and at Avignon. Burgundy, which in the thirteenth century had not fulfilled its promise of the twelfth, produced a school as vigorous and original as any the world has seen. Philippe le Hardi (of Burgundy, †1404) and his undaunted descendants gathered together the best sculptors they could find, and gave them splendid opportunities for work in the Chartreuse de Champmol at Dijon. Fortunately we know the authors of the groups of Philippe le Hardi and his wife Marguerite de Flandre, the mourners round the ducal tombs and the prophets in the Puits de Moïse. Jean de Marville, Claus Sluter, Claus de Werve, and those who followed them were very great artists indeed, creators of a school that exercised a profound influence on the revival of French sculpture that gladdens the close of the fifteenth century. Many towns and regions then become intensely active. Troyes owns a particularly brilliant school, Toulouse and Albi forget Simon de Montfort and the desolation he visited upon them, Touraine and the Ile-de-France are distinguished again by the purity of their art. However, though Martin Chambiges and Jean Texier still worked for churches, the time was near when the greatest sculpture should no more be associated with religious architecture. Mediæval art was at an end.

M. BOURGET'S NEW PLAY.

By ERNEST DIMNET.

"**LE TRIBUN**," the new play of Paul Bourget, now running at the Vaudeville, is, like its predecessors, an undoubted success. It does not follow that it is a masterpiece. The demand for histrionics is so great that one could easily name twenty plays produced in the last twelve months with much more applause than the "*Misanthrope*" ever received when it was a brand new comedy. Like its predecessors also, "*Le Tribun*" is a play with a purpose. M. Bourget will never write anything any more without a purpose. The purpose, as is well known, is to show that the moral and social conditions brought about by the French Revolution are inferior to those previously existing and even contrary to the essentials of human society.

The process through which the author of "*La Vie Inquiète*," "*Mensonges*," and "*La Physiologie de l'Amour Moderne*" has evolved into a disciple of Bonald is not mysterious. The youthful productions I have just named certainly grudged nothing to passion, but they were idealistic all the same. M. Bourget had a partiality for distinguished sinfulness, which was a germ of reform in itself. He lived, he wrote, he made his mark, he learned. Like everybody else, he got tired of frivolousness—no matter how refined—and became inclined to build distinction on a more solid foundation than mere dandyism. Besides, there had always been in him a streak of deep, even of ponderous seriousness. He had been in his youth a devoted disciple of Taine. He had the same turn for systems, for rigorous demonstrations and full, satisfactory explanations. As he went on, and gradually found that he was more and more recognised as the Balzac of his generation, it was natural that he should aspire to rival the author of "*La Comédie Humaine*," not only in describing the ins and outs of Vanity Fair, but in displaying the superior knowledge of the remedies applicable to modern woes rightfully belonging to a philosophically-trained mind. The first

intimation of this change was given us in "Le Disciple" and since then we have often seen M. Bourget in his rôle of a social physician, sometimes in evening dress and discreetly feeling the pulse of modern society, sometimes in his shirt-sleeves and operating apron. Certainly he enjoys the game.

Is it much more than a game? Do novelists really believe that they are not only the painters but the reformers of society? Nobody can tell. Men professionally trained to imagine things and living in a time when literature shares with medicine the privileges formerly enjoyed by theology must be apt to see themselves in an ideal light. Balzac did, and Dumas, and Flaubert and Daudet also. Molière and Fielding were more modest. They knew that they did little more than mirror the moving picture they had before their eyes and hint at the judgments passed on it by that great philosopher, the man in the street. Perhaps a little voice also warns the modern fabulists that they are story-tellers and not sociologists, but it is difficult for them to listen to it. Admiration for their talent is too loud. M. Marcel Prévost is a director of consciences in good and grim earnest, and M. Paul Bourget never loses an opportunity of delivering himself of philosophical or political verdicts. He must honestly look upon himself as a guide of mankind, an intellectual shepherd of peoples.

Nobody can deny that his critical faculties are powerful. His "Essais de Psychologie" testify to the breadth and keenness of his vision, and even more the articles which he preserves the habit of sending to the "Gaulois" or to "Le Figaro" on solemn occasions. But they are the faculties of a literary much more than of a political historian. His political views are uniformly one-sided, and when they seem to be indisputable there is something austere about them which makes them look narrow. He strikes one as being resolutely on the side of wealth and power, as much as on the side of tradition and authority, and when one remembers the flattering tone of his society novels, his attitude appears irritating. Some of the short essays signed "Junius" in the "Echo de Paris" which it is not difficult to father upon him could turn the most quiet reader into a revolutionary, so unveiled his partisanship shows itself. His attempts at establishing his tenets through the novel or the drama have not always been successful. One could say that they have never been successful. It is curious that this doctrinaire who never wanders from his text when he preaches should constantly forget it when he tries to illustrate its import. "L'Étape" proves nothing. Monneron's son might become a swindler, even if Monneron himself was the son of a duke instead of the son of a peasant. "Le Divorce" proves little. It is no consequence of the religious irregularity of their marriage if the son of the Darras falls in love with a woman beneath him. Similar flaws could be pointed out in "L'Émigré" and "La Barricade".

"Le Tribun", in its turn, may be a dramatic success; as an apologue it is a failure. M. Bourget had stated at length not only in several passages of his play but in the daily press, what ideas he wished to inculcate. The present age, he thinks, is—owing above all to the notions made current since the French Revolution—a time of intransigent individualism. The individual is constantly considered as having rights superior to those of society, and one famous instance has shown that hundreds of thousands are ready to give up society to anarchy rather than sacrifice a unit of it. Useless to remark how much could be said on this view of the Dreyfus affair, and how easily it could be turned against the very principles held by M. Bourget. Now, individualism goes not only against the existence of a well-ordered society, but against the family relation, and ultimately against the individual himself. It is an instance of a roundabout development of this kind that the "Tribun" was intended to set forth, but in this part of his task M. Bourget has once more undoubtedly failed.

He ought to have chosen a case in which a resolute individualist had been blinded by the charm of his poli-

tical dreams to their possible consequences, and had been made afterwards to suffer from the consequences sufficiently to conceive doubts about their initial cause. A great many parables occur immediately which might have been available. But it is one thing for a parable to be demonstrative and another thing to be dramatic. M. Bourget is not, far from it, a first-rate reader of human nature, but he is an experienced builder of the air-castles of fiction, and seems to take endless pleasure in the technique of his art. As he expounded the philosophical import of his play, he could not refrain from indulging in considerations about the proper way of first giving life to dramatic characters and then baring—as he puts it—their secret wounds. Apparently, a politician caught in his own nets is not a really dramatic character, nor his wounds sufficiently interesting to captivate an audience through three acts. At all events, it has turned out that M. Bourget, who wanted to write a play with a latent lesson in it, has written instead a human drama. Portal—the champion of individualism whom he meant to experiment upon—is a socialist deputy who has just been made Prime Minister. He is integrity itself, and having discovered, on entering office, proofs of extensive bribing in Parliament, he will first of all find out and punish the guilty deputies, and only afterwards proceed with the realisation of his plans for the destruction of the old family prejudices. It would be too long to enter into the dramatic complications of the play, but it is sufficient to say that the document indispensable for the conviction of the dishonourable honourables is a cheque-book which comes into the possession of Portal's son, but which he gives up against a sum of a hundred thousand francs. This the Prime Minister finds out, and his first impulse is to deliver up his own son to the magistrates. He sends for the police, but seeing his son in despair and ready to commit suicide, when the magistrates appear he finds some excuse and keeps the awful secret to himself. Later on he examines his conscience and comes to the conclusion that the family bond which he had thought of breaking is nothing else than the indissoluble ties of blood, and his belief in his own ideas is staggered for ever.

The second act—in which father and son are face to face, one with his crime and the other with his conscience—is one of the most powerful situations that M. Bourget has created, but if we leave alone the dramatic value of the play to regard it exclusively from the standpoint adopted by M. Bourget himself, we find that the "Tribun" proves nothing that it was intended to demonstrate. The whole effort of the author was to be turned against the ideas of Portal. Now they are so unimportant in the play that one may imagine the Prime Minister a staunch conservative without hindering its development in the least. The situation of Portal is exactly the same as that of the vieil Horace in Corneille's tragedy, where there is no question of any political doctrine. It is extraordinary that M. Bourget should have overlooked the similarity. But this is not all. "Le Tribun" not only does not illustrate what its author looks upon as the truth, it goes right against it. In fact, if Portal did his duty, which was to deliver up his son to the magistrates, he would by so doing ignore the family ties to which M. Bourget attaches so much importance, and it is only by refusing to be a hero that he is of any use to the author's position. A strange illogism.

It is no business of ours to try and explain such a mistake: suffice it to say that even in the most experienced hands a work of art is often like an unbroken horse, but it is difficult all the same to realise how a man of M. Bourget's calibre should begin his play with the ambition of embodying philosophy in it, and finish it perfectly content to have made his character lifelike and his plot exciting. Luckily for M. Bourget, this is exactly what the public wants, and lack of so-called philosophy never marred a good play.

MEMORIES OF A CATHEDRAL.

BY FILSON YOUNG.

V.

IT may interest the reader who, perhaps, associates the use of the organ in church with feelings of vague distress for which he cannot quite account, to hear how the services were played in the cathedral of my memory. I have said how my master's own style is founded on the great West of England school of organ playing; but he did not strictly follow it; it stood somewhere between those old leisurely days, when it was customary before the psalms for the congregation to sit down and the organist to improvise a long and magnificent prelude, and these later days, when there is a tendency to gallop things through. His style was somewhat different on Sundays and Feast days, when there was a large congregation, from the strict manner in which the daily choir services were accompanied. The daily routine was invariable in form, and to me always the most delightful thing in it was the thirty or forty bars of prelude, which almost invariably took one of two or three forms: either it was a piece of pure part playing on the soft voices of the choir organ, beginning in two or three parts and extending to six or seven or eight, always founded on a theme or germ of the first few notes, a web full of inner melodies, imitations and suspensions, with most wonderful harmonic changes arising out of them; or else, beginning in the same way, the left hand would take up a theme on a quiet reed in the tenor octave of the Swell organ, presently imitating it in delightful duet and canon, with the thumb and first finger dropped on to the Great organ with a quiet flue stop drawn in contrast. The harmony would always be kept above the parts with the right hand on the Choir organ, calm and quiet, and often this method was productive of delightful results. Or sometimes the solo part would be confined to a single tenor reed on the Swell, and would answer and interrogate the harmonic movement of the parts on the Choir organ, with perhaps a little cadenza dropping to the dominant pedal before the end. But it was always a perfect movement in miniature. In all the hundreds of times I have sat in the organ loft I have hardly ever heard him "play in" at the daily services except in one of these three ways, and I can honestly say I have never heard him repeat himself. The playing of solos in the treble on a high stop with an accompaniment in the middle register, so beloved for the formless twiddlings of vicious organists, is a thing I have never heard him do. And in all this experience of hearing him "play in" I have never heard him use fancy stops such as the Voix Céleste, but always the quietest, calmest tones, a real prelude in the devotional mood.

The organ was, of course, not heard again until the psalms; and in the accompaniment to them also a very strict form, with infinite freedom in the treatment of it, was used. The first verse was played full on the Great organ diapasons, which were practically never used again until the Gloria. The rest of the verses were either on the Choir organ, often without pedals; or with the body of the accompaniment on the Swell organ, with perhaps some slow-moving counterpoint held against the melody of the chant by a single voice on the Choir or Solo organs; or sometimes with the melody itself played an octave below on the Great organ on the Gamba and Double Diapasons. In a long psalm infinite variety of accompaniment was permitted, but it was all kept very quiet, and where the upper part on the organ was prominent it was never either the melody of the chant or a counter melody moving in the same time with it, but long holding notes, moving preferably by fourths and fifths and octaves; hardly ever by thirds and sixths, except as mere passing notes. The Swell reeds, which can so easily get monotonous and tiresome, were used with the greatest reserve and were taken off again almost before one had realised they were there; just sometimes and suddenly, and underneath the running course of the chant, one would feel rather than hear the muttering and quaking of the sixteen and thirty-two foot pedal

pipes and the subdued reverberation and glow, as of a line of fire running along a cloud bank, of the Swell organ reeds. And immediately after it, almost overlapping it, would be heard the clear passionless tones of the Choir organ. Always in the last half verse before the Gloria the Great-to-Pedal coupler was drawn—a very old custom, the origin of which I have not been able to discover, unless it was originally designed to warn the clerks in the choir that the Gloria had been reached. My cathedral being an old collegiate church, it was the custom to turn to the east at the Gloria; and my associations with that fine burst of praise are always so far as sound goes, Hill's beautiful diapasons and, visually, the sight through the canopies of the rood screen of the perspective of the choir, the violet cassocks and scarlet hoods decorating the sombre darkness of the oak stalls, and the Gothic decorations of swine, gamecocks, bear-baiting, and men playing backgammon.

The services, if of the old English school, were played very strictly, the Choir organ being used to accompany all the "verses"; or if of the modern school a freer and more orchestral treatment was used. The anthem, if it had no written prelude, was one of our points of anticipation in the service; usually it would receive only a few bars of introduction, but sometimes, and especially in the twilight of an afternoon in the fall of the year, the player would perhaps imagine himself back in Bath or Gloucester or Winchester and prelude the anthem in the old grand manner, greatly to our edification and the delight of the "gang" clustered under the western archway. "Playing out" was the next and last point of interest. Here again he never played a note of written music, although he by no means approved of his own practice being generally adopted in cathedrals. But he used to say that at the weekly organ recitals people had all the opportunities they needed for listening to the performance of pieces, and that it was unnecessary to give anything in the nature of a performance at the cathedral; otherwise, where there is not a regular municipal organ recital, people in cathedral towns generally expect to hear some classical music at the close of the afternoon services. But for all that his improvised movements were often elaborate enough, and entirely different in style from the preludes to the anthems in the services; very free in form, but again always unified by the presence of a really happy and definite theme, and often exhibiting astounding virtuoso feats of contrapuntal and executive dexterity. If he were in a happy mood he would go on for a long time, sometimes for ten or fifteen minutes; and how the minor canons used to hate it if perchance they had a christening at the end of the service, and had to wait on a cold winter afternoon shivering in the baptistry until the magnificent music had come to an end! . . . And then we would troop out after him across the ancient stones of the churchyard into the gathering gloom, and out among the lights and noises of the city; and so would end another day of music.

 PHRASES OF THE FEMININE FICTIONIST.

FICTION is to-day mainly written by women; and it is already possible to compile an anthology of words and phrases used and understood by women alone.

"Man-like" is a woman's word; so is "friendly-wise", and "alright". No male author would make the heroine say "I am a very woman!" It is the women authors, too, who ruin the hero every week by "a paper found in the left-hand drawer of an old bureau".

Heroines lead an anxious and harassed life. Young persons "sweep up" when out for the evening; ladies when exceptionally tender "flute"; and girls, on the slightest provocation, "pant". "I shall have the world at my feet one day", Rachel panted, "clapping and applauding me to the echo . . . the world!" Heroines do things in brackets. They speak (gloomily) and (grudgingly) and (archly.) Grand-uncles "are

addressed (yearningly). Heroines do not reply; they "flash". The best heroines "ripple". "How man-like!" Aminta rippled."

Heroines and ladies going into the magazines to say that their heart will find "its king" are "not exactly beautiful". Though there is ever something about them which lures the careless passer-by to look again, their face is "not quite flawless", and the best heroines suffer from a nose which is "not quite a perfect one". Secure in the possession of "a woman's true heart", they discover "a Foul Wrong", defeat Scotland Yard, and engage in detecting crime in Ross-shire. They cast a glamour over legal gentlemen and a respectable family solicitor, a dry man, a bachelor given to charging six-and-eightpence, departed so far from professional practice as to say that it was not for him to read the secrets of a woman's heart—subsequently forgetting to charge Miss Myrtle thirteen-and-fourpence "to advising you to take your own way".

"Dainty" is a woman's word. It is used equally of an authentic collection of Goss China, the property of one Geneviève, and of a practical table-cloth, belonging to "a poor dressmaker with a dear, old face". Some girls are possessed of "a dainty figure"; and, in shaking hands, heroines give melancholy young gentlemen a "dainty hand in friendly-wise". They live with the tea-cup permanently in their womanly fingers; tepid tea and insubstantial bread are technically referred to as "a dainty meal".

Faces are "proud"; and ladies with an imperfect nose have "a pure, proud, lovely woman's face, with glorious soul-lit eyes". Heroines are "slight". Chairs, on the other hand, are "deep"; and after the accident of a sprained ankle you "almost carry Elsie's slight figure to a deep chair".

In the important matter of costume, emotional dresses are worn and virginal thoughts go with white frocks. "Clinging white draperies" are essential to the heroine, and "colours" are not worn.

Eyes are extremely significant. The heroines have "glorious, dark-blue, soul-lit, womanly eyes". Ladies of a villainous type, on the other hand, are recognisable by their "green eyes". On encountering at a country house eyes "scintillating like emeralds", a bachelor should despatch a telegram summoning himself to the death-bed of "his grand aunt, Barbara Batley". In Chapter Thirty-Four Green Eyes are "unmasked". Heroines with "pansy eyes", ladies with orbs "misty with unshed tears", are dedicate and unlike anything on earth. Though they have shortened their hair and lengthened their skirts, "as yet no thought of love has entered their bright young lives", and "all that seemed too far away from their young glorious thoughts."

Gentlemen with "the most expressive dark eyes" lead a harassed life.

The hero is a clod, a thing stuffed out with straw. It is the business and profession of a hero to come into accidents; his occupation is to tumble off his horse; he needs "womanly care and compassion". He goes over cliffs; he is sand-bagged; he runs a hook into his "poor hand" while fraudulently pretending to fish, and he "almost faints". Awakened out of a "swoon" by the application of cold water, he sees a face whose "beauty is graven for ever on the tablets of his memory". He says "For pity's sake let me in". . . . A face was pressed against the window-pane . . . ghastly, pallid, with white lips and eyes that gazed in unseeing fashion." In fact, there had been a fall of snow. She chafes his "half-frozen fingers. He was helpless as a babe". The general helplessness of heroes is their prevailing note. Barristers are briefless. Man is good in so far as he approaches a distinctly feminine type, and the ideal is to be "a very woman". The best men, persons with well-kept hands, are distinguished by "a touch as tender as a woman's". Colonels and Majors who delimitate frontiers and hunt "big game" have "a mouth as sweet as a girl's". The eyes of Colonel Melcombe are "luminous with sympathy"; the war-worn veteran weeps "like a babe".

Then there is the Wretch and the Brute. His wife is a "deeply wronged woman". The Brute has "a retreating chin". But . . . "there is no hint of weakness about his sister, albeit she was altogether sweet and womanly". Often they are men with green eyes, with "dark olive faces", and a cigar. The Brute "grinds his teeth". "His evil passions were thoroughly roused; they swept his soul like a blasting flame." The Wretch is greedy, and when you write of him, the feminine language runs naturally into terms of eating and metaphors of gross gluttony. "He kept his eyes on the hall-door like a chained wolf on meat beyond his reach."

Burglary is venial, and so is blood-letting. There are viler things against the Brute, and dark matters which cannot be expiated by retiring to South America or taking "a solemn oath". "Against my guardian's wish . . . almost in defiance of her authority . . . I married the man I loved. He proved to be a gambler . . . and worse!" This degraded person, in fact, had sworn at his wife; and was generally "a most determined, unscrupulous man". He dies in Chapter Twenty-Eight. And wasn't he "horrid"!

THE LONDONER'S GARDEN.

THE true Londoner, as distinct from the vast majority of its inhabitants who are there, as it were, by accident, and are so much countrymen at heart that whenever free they must be fishing or climbing hills far from all urban suggestions, has his calendar of excursions and holidays to fill the varying year with the appropriate delights his mother city affords so freely. It is probably only in London, and not too commonly there, that we English have become real town dwellers; our other cities have grown too rapidly, and their inhabitants are but a generation or two removed from the farmers and seafarers or adventurers in other lands, who made the staple of our race. We need to go where there has been a stronger impress of old Rome, among the Latin people or the cities of the Empire, to find the definitely urban population, men and women who can take the pleasures the city affords at once privately in their own family circle and yet in a crowd. The sense of many others round about neither troubles nor excites them, they draw their pleasures intimately from the things they have come out to see, as remote on the one hand from the roaring mob of Hampstead Heath on Bank Holiday as from those desolate throngs which circulate in the Sunday streets of our great industrial towns, where the only amusement is an occasional recognition and the reiterated sight of others equally aimless.

Somewhere about Easter-tide our Londoner's calendar is rubricated "Kew Gardens". He has had hints of spring before: though nowadays the flower-girls' baskets speak rather of lands where spring is resident and bring us daffodils long before we dare dream of a swallow, yet the golden sallows for Palm Sunday are still of native growth and here and there in the squares the almond has unfolded its annual miracle of Aaron's rod. Sometimes he waits for the Easter Festival, but when the weather is kind and the race conveniently early he may round off that other London holiday, the Varsity boat race, with his first call at Kew Gardens, because it lies in the same line of country, however difficult it may be to make the connexion. Kew Green, with its bizarre little Georgian church, forms a fitting prelude to the Gardens, something akin to the tuning of the orchestra, but the Easter play proper opens with the dance of daffodils to the left of the gate and over the mound by the lake. The daffodils really mark the beginning of the Kew season, but there are many quiet beauties which draw its lovers to the Gardens on any fine day after New Year has begun. The tree tracery is there all the winter through, and the long glades, the view across the river to the meadows and Syon House, are then perhaps most beautiful, but even if you have come to Kew to see flowers as early as January you may find on the right wall Garrya with

its long feathery catkins, and the wych hazel with its odd twisted blossoms of scented amber, not to mention the Christmas roses, with here and there a cyclamen among the ferns on the border leading to the Cumberland Gate. The first sheet of blossom is provided by the winter aconites beneath the lilac plantation, and they are soon followed by the crocus, which more gaily even than the daffodil or the buttercup can paint the lawns with gold. And by this time there are other colour harmonies as faint and elusive as the yellow crocus is triumphant—the misty blue of scillas or chionodoxas upon the brown earth whose tone is repeated in the brown elm blossom overhead, crocus variations in lavender and lilac, and for those who like to look close the hellebores draped in sombre purple and vinous crimson. Of course these are all spring colours, blues that are cold, and yellows that hint of green; if you want real reds or a summer's profusion of blossom you must find the greenhouses which are ablaze with azaleas and Chinese primulas, cinerarias and geraniums, exotics that have been selected for the regularity and freedom with which they can be made to flower at this time of year. But there is something tame and domestic about all these plants, even about orchids: they are such triumphant examples of the gardener's art and match the prize oxen at the Christmas shows. One little glass-house at Kew, at its best from February to April, will, however, show you beauties of a wider air. This is the unheated alpine house which lives away at the back of the rock garden, not far from the Richmond Road and next door to a somewhat dull museum. It is fed from a long series of frames in a workaday part of the grounds taboo to visitors, and there in succession are set out pots of alpine and other dwarfs, which are by far the most difficult of all plants to rear in the low suburban atmosphere of Kew.

Some purists object to this house on the grounds that as rock plants belong to mountains or high latitudes, nursed amid snow and desolation, they should live in appropriate surroundings in the open and not be cribbed up in pots like wild birds in a cage. But the imagination can travel to the snow peaks as easily from a pot as from any artificial rockwork, be it carved into a veritable facsimile of the Matterhorn itself (as in Sir Frank Crisp's famous garden at Henley), a flash of colour, a whiff of scent, will be sufficient passport, and the more elaborate the machinery of suggestion the more obstinately the mind is apt to stay at home. Moreover, these alpine plants are so tiny and so frail that they give one the delight of something cunningly and exquisitely fashioned, like a delicate ivory or a lacquer inro; they need to be lifted up close to the eye and sheltered from the weather. For though they are children of the storm and the snows, many of them, and especially those from the highest altitudes, grow better in pots protected in a frame than on the open rockwork. In nature they rest until their equable blanket of snow suddenly melts and in one step they pass from winter into summer, a summer of intense sunlight and superabundant moisture. An English winter and spring is all false starts and set-backs, a week of soft growing weather is followed by bitter frost and east windy drought, the air is thick, the light has no intensity in it, even the rain is laden with soot and acid.

But how well the mountain dwellers will respond to what seems on the face of it a more artificial treatment the Kew alpine house shows on this afternoon of early April. There are perhaps fewer plants than usual from the high snow line, the upper limits of vegetation contribute only a tiny androsace, little more than a moss creeping over its rock fragments, with tiny milk-white blossoms. The saxifrages belong to the mountain meadows as well as the higher rocks; the choicest ones make tiny rosettes encrusted with silver and now crowned with little tufts of unexpectedly large blossoms, white and yellow as a rule, though the hybridist has been lately at work among them and is deepening the rarer pinks into reds. The primulas are another race of true mountain lovers, for though the primrose and cowslip seem domestic enough, the bird's-eye primrose

of the Yorkshire moors is more typical of the genus, and many of them will only flourish when wedged into a rock-crack. We found frondosa like a glorified bird's-eye primrose, another clear yellow mealy sort of the fat and marketable order, the snow-white nivalis, and a new and exquisite species recently imported from Southern China. Alas, it has been necessary to enclose these latter in a cage; the pots are not very large, and we could feel how immense must be the temptation to slip one into a deep pocket or a muff. Scattered among the Alpines are certain far-travelled bulbous plants too small for the open air; little iris from the Asiatic plains, like persica—only three inches high but carrying as wide a blossom of Cambridge-blue velvet, with a black lip and one intense orange blotch. There were tiny cyclamen-flowered daffodils and hoop petticoat narcissus from the Pyrenees, dwarf fritillaries in brown and green and citron yellow, grape hyacinths of the purest white, low wine-stained tulips, and one or two glorious clusters of that alpine of Eastern England, said only to grow where Danish blood has been shed—the Pasque flower of the high chalk downs, a shimmer of silver and purple.

But the grey afternoon light is beginning to fade, let us hurry once through the rock-garden, leaving it at the middle for one good look at the cornelian cherries all studded with their yellow spiky blossoms, past the Japanese cherry with its tiny pinkish petals set on naked stems, to the even more wonderful yulan, the magnolia which also unfolds its furry buds before any leaf appears, and then once more on Kew Green. By this time we discover what a lot of walking Kew always means, we succumb to about the fifth invitation to a tea room, and when we eventually rise as the hockey players on the green break up their game and stream across the bridge with the spectators, we realise what variety of enjoyment a Cockney holiday can afford.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE HOLMES CIRCULAR.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

21 Harcourt Road, Sheffield, 1 April 1911.

SIR,—One may frequently be able to accept a diagnosis without being able to agree with the treatment prescribed as a result. Mr. Holmes was pre-eminent in securing the abandonment of the results system in elementary education, but many local authorities still hanker after that system and either continue it or else wish to reintroduce it by appointing inspectors of their own to do the very work the Government inspectors have been instructed to drop. The conflict in ideals thus set up between the two sets of inspectors doubtless accounts for the issue of the circular; but in the circular Mr. Holmes attributes to the previous training of the local officials a practice in education, which is much more satisfactorily accounted for by the working of mere supply and demand: doubtless the local authorities could easily get Oxford and Cambridge graduates in abundance to examine on "results" lines if they so wished: all the Government inspectors worked thus twenty-five years ago.

Mr. Birrell once said that the headmaster should be master on his own quarter-deck; if he is to be so, the position of inspectors of all sorts must be merely advisory. Under the best conditions they may act, as Mr. Paton recently put it, as cross-fertilisers between school and school; but frequently they have to be resisted. When I had a school of my own I had to fight a pitched battle with a local authority inspector for freedom to work along my own lines; and though I usually found the more experienced of the Government inspectors more appreciative of my work than my employers, yet the inspector-apprentice was frequently a burden. I well remember a young Wrangler who evidently thought that all the problems of school life could be factorised and solved like equations, and when I pointed out that to err is human and that children and teachers alike were often bundles of inculcable contradictions,

he gravely replied that the mathematician can always make allowance for error, and that incommensurables had their place in mathematics. I often wonder whether Wranglers are really thankful for their Tripos training. This one seemed quite satisfied to chasten himself with a mathematical formula.

I remain yours faithfully,
FRANK J. ADKINS.

ELEMENTARY HUMANITIES.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

31 Dorset Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, 1 April 1911.

SIR,—In your issue of to-day you say that the British nation as a whole distrusts, or at least dislikes, literature. I hope that you exclude from this condemnation the very large part of that nation which is educated in our elementary schools, whose knowledge of English literature is only surpassed by their love and admiration for it. During the last twenty years I have had opportunities of becoming acquainted with the results of English elementary education, and I have witnessed the great intellectual revolution which has affected our lower classes during this period. There is far greater danger of scholars from our elementary schools, who are not tainted with the poison of athletic worship, being corrupted by contact with our secondary schools, than of secondary schools being injuriously affected by them. It is our lower classes who buy cheap reprints of English classics, and who make such reprints possible. I speak not of what I think but of what I know. I could fill your whole paper with evidence on this subject, but for this neither you nor your readers would thank me. I should be happy to communicate privately with anyone who wishes to know more. It is a misfortune that the classes who consider themselves cultured and refined are entirely ignorant of this momentous change, and none is more ignorant and unsympathetic than Sir Robert Morant and those whom he represents.

I am, your obedient servant,
OSCAR BROWNING.

THE WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

14 Red Lion Square, Holborn, London W.C.
5 April 1911.

SIR,—May we bring to the notice of your readers the urgent financial needs of the Workers' Educational Association?

Our Association, which is a federation of working-class and educational organisations, strives to stimulate, to voice, and to assist in supplying the demand for education among working men and women. Our work has already met with widespread recognition, and its rapid growth has created financial necessities which compel us to ask for the support of all those who desire increased educational opportunities for workpeople.

Money is specially needed to assist the work involved in the development of University tutorial classes, of which there are seventy-one, containing over two thousand working men and women taking three years' courses of a university standard. Great opportunities are before us of increasing the work already begun in rural districts, and of helping in the educational awakening now taking place among working women. Everywhere workpeople are ready to hear an educational message, and though the Association has now one hundred local branches and three provincial offices, owing to our lack of funds we are doing but a small part of the work that we are called upon to do. Our income from all sources amounts to less than 1500*l.* a year; donations and subscriptions, small or large, will be warmly welcomed and should be sent to the Honorary Treasurer at 14 Red Lion Square, London W.C., from which address any information can be obtained.

Yours faithfully,
ALBERT MANBRIDGE,
General Secretary.

THE REFERENDUM.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Devonshire Club, 4 April 1911.

SIR,—Your interesting article on the Referendum is open to two criticisms. First, and this is the less important point, you speak of the Referendum as an appeal to the people. In fact, the Referendum of which you speak does not propose an appeal to the people, the great majority of whom would have no votes under it, since an enormous number of men and all women are excluded from the present electoral registers. All you propose is an appeal to those of the people who happen to be on the electoral register. Let this point pass. You argue on the assumption that a democrat is prepared to give votes to all men and if he is logical to all women, because he holds that all men and women ought to govern the country. You assume too much. Our view is that if you exclude any large section of the population from the franchise that section must suffer because its views cannot be directly expressed in the legislature, and because its interests are exposed to the attacks of a selfish capitalism or a silly fanaticism that can command votes against it. Does anyone for a moment suppose that the Trades Disputes Bill would ever have become law if the suffrage had been restricted to the middle class? Does any sane man believe that the sweating of women in Government workshops would be possible if women had the franchise? To argue, from the fact that a democrat holds that all people should have votes to protect their interests, that a democrat should desire to take a referendum on Roman Catholic disabilities or Home Rule, is to put forward a non sequitur. The people need the vote to protect their interests, but on high matters of State policy it is for their representatives to judge.

To many of your readers it is regrettable that the SATURDAY REVIEW, which condemned the plebiscite on the third Napoleon, should have at last accepted the Referendum, which, if it comes, will probably entail land nationalisation, since no fiscal system will ever be accepted by the democracy or the middle class which increases their burdens.

Your obedient servant,
A MODERATE LIBERAL.

"MY HONOURABLE FRIEND."

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Gomshall, 27 March 1911.

SIR,—Reading to-day in "The Golden Treasury Series" a translation of the classical essays on Old Age and Friendship, I came upon a passage which seems sufficiently appropriate to our present political peril to be worth noting. In his twelfth division of the essay on Friendship Cicero lays down the rule that in friendship we must "neither ask nor consent to what is wrong". On this branch of his subject he says:

"This rule holds good for all wrong doing, but more especially in such as involves disloyalty to the republic. For things have come to such a point with us, my dear Fannius and Scævola, that we are bound to look somewhat far ahead to what is likely to happen to the republic."

After going into details he continues:

"I seem already to see the people estranged from the Senate, and the most important affairs at the mercy of the multitude. For you may be sure that more people will learn how to set such things in motion than how to stop them. What is the point of these remarks? This: no one ever makes any attempt of this sort without friends to help him. We must therefore impress upon good men that, should they become inevitably involved in friendships with men of this kind, they ought not to consider themselves under any obligation to stand by friends who are disloyal to the republic."

The British Prime Minister has 271 "honourable friends" who are expected to hurry, when the bell rings,

into the appointed division lobby. It may, perhaps, occur to some of them, when reposing in the smoking-room in the quiet intervals, that the time is coming when their friendship for their leader may be put to too severe a test, and that they "ought not to consider themselves under any obligation to stand by friends who are disloyal to the public".

The ancient writer ends as follows :

"We conclude, then, not only that no such confederation of evilly-disposed men must be allowed to shelter itself under the plea of friendship, but that, on the contrary, it must be visited with the severest punishment, lest the idea should prevail that fidelity to a friend justifies even making war upon one's country. And this is a case which I am inclined to think, considering how things are beginning to go, will sooner or later arise. And I care quite as much what the state of the constitution will be after my death as what it is now."

Let the 271 honourable friends ponder these words. Perhaps some of them may be induced to find their way into the other lobby.

I am, sir, yours faithfully,

GEORGE MARTINEAU.

THE BAGHDAD RAILWAY.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

High Wycombe, 20 March 1911.

SIR,—The "Man in the Street" does not seem to take much interest in the question of the railway from Constantinople to the Persian Gulf, although the German-controlled line if completed as proposed will be a serious menace to the security of our Empire in India. An "All-British Line", or more correctly one which could and should be entirely under British interest and control, would be a perfect counterbalance to the present German project. Such a line has been already mooted, and has enlisted the support of an influential body of expert authorities. Starting at Port Said, the northern entrance of the Suez Canal, it would run through the North of Arabia, almost in a straight-line due East to Basra, with a branch to Koweit on the Persian Gulf. It would cross the "Shat-el-Arab", and pass through Southern Persia, outside the Russian Zone, to Nushki in Beluchistan, where it would connect with the Indian railway system.

It has been generally imagined that Northern Arabia is a barren desert, a country almost impossible to carry a railway through, though the Turkish line from Damascus to Mecca is a standing refutation of this fallacy. Moreover, impossibilities in railway construction do not exist in the experience of the engineers who have built the desert railways of India and the Soudan. The "Shat-el-Arab" Bridge would be a simple feat in construction for the men who have built the numerous railway bridges over the Ganges, Indus, and many other large Indian rivers; to say nothing of the Nile bridges at and near Khartoum, or the Forth and Tay Bridges at home.

As a matter of fact, Northern Arabia is not the desert it is popularly supposed to be. It is a plateau of about 2000 feet altitude above sea level, and it has many oases thickly populated. Experience in India and the Soudan has shown that railways when constructed through apparently forbidding localities have the most extraordinary faculty for creating and inducing traffic. There is no reason to suppose but that this line, if made, would in the same way soon develop a paying traffic. The latest example is the so-called "Uganda Railway", made in defiance of technical advice that it could never pay. It is now not only earning a fair return on its cost, but, like the purchase of the Suez Canal shares, is in a fair way to prove to be a most valuable national asset.

In a paper read before "The Central Asian Society" about two years ago by the late geographer at the India Office, a full description of the above Trans-Arabian route and its possibilities was given, and the project

was most favourably received and criticised by men of standing in Indian affairs. In point of directness the line to Nushki surpasses all other projects.

At this critical time there seems an admirable opportunity for pressing for a full inquiry into the feasibility of the Arabian route. A concession for its construction would strengthen the hands of those engaged in the negotiations as to the control of the extension from Baghdad to the Persian Gulf, which we learn in to-day's newspapers is under anxious consideration.

The total length of the proposed Indo-Egyptian line would be about 2200 miles, and a fair estimate of cost of the Port Said-Basra-Koweit section would be £6000 per mile. This section is the key of the situation, and it would only be necessary to construct this portion in the first instance, which could be done in three years (about 950 miles), at a cost of about £5,000,000 (five million pounds sterling).

G. H. LIST,
Formerly Chief Engineer
Indian State Railways.

THE KING EDWARD MEMORIAL.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

49 Roland Gardens, South Kensington,
5 April 1911.

SIR,—Your suggestion that the King Edward Memorial should be thrown open to competition amongst all the artists of the Empire is excellent. But who is to decide on the merits of the designs submitted? A jury composed of attorneys, bankers, manufacturers, scientists, and mayors would no doubt give the matter their full consideration, but it is conceivable that they might not be duly qualified to give an opinion on matters concerning art. Would it not be possible to submit the designs of the proposed memorial to the members of the Chelsea Arts Club? I feel sure that the good taste of the Club would be against the selection of a design which showed signs of Imperialist swagger.

Yours faithfully,

DOUGLAS FOX PITT.

"THE CENSUS AND THE FAMILY".

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Sheffield, 1 April 1911.

SIR,—I have just shown our census paper to a German fresh from Berlin, where he had filled in the corresponding German paper. His comments on our form were instructive. It was simpler than the German. But it was not provided with a sufficient number of lines. The big families of Germany would overflow our schedules, especially in the districts along the North Sea coasts.

Yours very truly,

LODGER.

A GLASGOW NIGHT.

THE quarter-strokes leap quavering from the bell
To mount the giant wind. The dim streets cower
With blinking lamps as fitful shower on shower
Charges and breaks disbanded. A fresh clean smell
Sweetens at large where the Arran raindrops fell.
Glamours of night enchant the College tower.
Deep down, the weir obscurely drones of power
To drown the wind : by turns they quail and quell.

From great ships down the half-lit river borne
The syren-bursts alarm and hoot and scold,
Grotesquely vast and sombre, as when the blare
Of blinded Polypheme his ogre horn,
Calling at eve the untended sheep to fold,
Shattered with noise the smooth Sicilian air.

J. S. PHILLIMORE.

REVIEWS.

THE ELIZABETHAN THEATRE.

"English Dramatic Companies, 1558-1642." By John Tucker Murray. London: Constable. 1910. 31s. 6d. net.

THE development of the drama in England down to the middle of the sixteenth century was very slow. But then there suddenly came a great change. The imitative instinct, which, as Aristotle explained so elaborately, is the cause of all poetry, and especially of dramatic poetry, burst into activity. The people were no longer satisfied with the formal stiff morality-plays which had been good enough for their fathers and grandfathers. They wanted something nearer to real life, and the eager demand was soon met by an abundant supply. It is estimated with reasonable probability that the total output of plays during the Elizabethan era was about 2500. But there were serious difficulties in the way of their public representation. The old law of England was no respecter of dramatic art; it put play-actors in the disreputable category of idle and disorderly persons, rogues, and vagabonds. The Church, too, not forgetting the connexion between the theatre at Rome and the persecution of the Christians, had from the first been unfriendly; even the old miracle-plays and moralities had been grudgingly allowed, and the new drama was a very different thing, dreadfully immoral and unedifying. The spirit of puritanism was already awake and beginning to be a force to reckon with. The corporations of London and of most important towns, partly perhaps on account of puritanical views and partly from a reasonable apprehension of disorder, stood in the way of all public entertainments. However, all obstacles were overcome with the help of an enlightened aristocracy, headed by Queen Elizabeth herself. Regularly organised companies were formed, "The Queen's Men", "The Earl of Worcester's Men", "Lord Strange's Men", and others, which were able to defy the law, the Church, and the municipalities, protected by a panoply of letters-patent and the badges and liveries of their patrons. They were required from time to time to give "command" performances at court or in the halls of their masters' houses, and during the rest of the year they kept themselves in practice by acting in public. In due course proper play-houses were built, first "The Theatre" and "The Curtain" in 1576, and later "The Globe", "The Fortune", "The Red Bull", and others. "The Globe", perhaps the most celebrated, was burnt down in 1613, but fortunately there was only one personal casualty: one man "had his breeches set on fire, that would perhaps have broiled him, if he had not by the benefit of a provident wit put it out with bottled ale". The frequent recurrences of plague in London caused great trouble to the theatrical companies, for when the deaths from plague exceeded a certain number in a week—apparently thirty, forty, or fifty at different times—the theatres were ordered to be closed. There are records of petitions addressed by the Corporation to the Privy Council on this subject. "It is an uncharitable demand against the safety of the Queen's subjects, and per consequens of her person, for the gain of a few, who if they were not her Majesty's servants should by their profession be rogues, to esteem fifty a week so small a number as to be cause of tolerating the adventure of infection", and so on. Often there were counter-petitions by the players, urging that they could not bear the expense of travelling, and if they were deprived of opportunities to practise they would not be able to acquit themselves well when commanded to court. However, generally the regulations seem to have been enforced, and the companies had to go on tour.

There were also many provincial companies which never came to London. Dramatic performances were given in almost every town of importance throughout the country. In an appendix Mr. Murray quotes passages from the municipal records of no fewer than

seventy-eight towns relating to these visits, and the list is probably far from being exhaustive. On tour the plays were acted in the courtyards of inns or any other convenient place. The usual procedure was for the company on arriving in a town to present its licence to the mayor and ask leave to play; sometimes it was made a condition that a special performance should be provided for the benefit of the corporation, and in return for this a reward was given, varying much in amount according to the importance of the company's patron. Occasionally there was trouble, and "The Earl of Worcester's Men" seem to have been particularly insubordinate; in June 1583, at Norwich, the mayor refused to let them play "as well to avoid the meeting of people this hot weather for fear of any infection as also for that they came from an infected place", but they received a reward of 26s. 8d. Not content with this they went to their inn and played. The mayor was naturally furious, but in the end he generously accepted an apology. A few months later the same company had a similar quarrel with the authorities at Leicester.

It is impossible not to admire the industry and care which Mr. Murray has given to the collection of material for these volumes, though the result is inevitably too statistical in form to make easy reading. The facts which he has brought to light from the depths of the municipal archives are of interest, as he points out in his preface, to genealogists as well as students of the theatre. We note that he contemplates the publication of another book on this subject, dealing with "much new information about the methods of licensing companies, the relations of the London and provincial companies, the plays acted in the provinces, the places of acting, the attitude of the people towards the players, their earnings and their relation to their patrons". May we suggest, in no disparagement of Mr. Greg's masterly commentary on Henslowe's Diary, that Mr. Murray should in his coming volume give us also an essay on theatrical finance and management? Any new light which his researches have enabled him to throw upon their difficult and interesting question will be widely welcomed.

THE COINS OF THE ROMAN REPUBLIC.

"The Coins of the Roman Republic in the British Museum." By H. A. Grueber F.S.A., Keeper of the Coins. 3 Vols. Printed by the Trustees of the British Museum. 1910. 70s.

THIS is a splendid and solid work, almost as colossal as the vast brick-like coins of the middle period of the Republic—the celebrated "æs grave"—which it describes and illustrates among many other issues. There are three large volumes of over 500 pages each, the third of which consists mainly of a series of photographic plates, reproducing the coins described in the other two. Mr. Grueber's admirable work embodies a new departure in the treatment of Roman Republican numismatics. Hitherto all catalogues dealing with the period before the Empire have been compiled not on a chronological basis, but on the arrangement of the coins alphabetically, under the family names of the mint-masters who struck them. This was a most unsatisfactory method; pieces issued by members of the same gens at intervals of more than two hundred years being placed together, while those issued by (for example) an Appuleius and a Vettius in the same year were to be found at the two opposite ends of all the old catalogues. Even M. Babelon's book, which has been for a generation the bible of the collector of Roman coins, was drawn up on this principle, though it had a good series of notes setting forth the chronological probabilities of the sequence of issues.

The volumes now before us enable the collector to arrange his Republican denarii, with almost absolute certainty, according to the date of their striking. Such a feat has only recently become possible, partly owing to the work of savants, from Mommsen downwards, who have established the historical identity of a great many of the mint-masters, but still more by the

careful observation of hoards discovered in Italy and elsewhere of recent years. It is only in the present generation that it has become usual to draw up and publish an exact inventory of every find, showing the precise numbers of every type of coin comprised in it. But thus alone has it become possible to determine the date of the issue of many Republican pieces. Every hoard furnishes us with a "terminus ad quem" and a "terminus a quo," by means of the latest and the earliest coins found in it. Not the least valuable—if the driest—part of Mr. Grueber's book is a detailed list of no fewer than forty-nine hoards, showing precisely the composition of every one. They are spread over the last two centuries of the Republic, and the comparison of them enables us to calculate precisely the period during which any particular coin was circulating. For in every hoard there are some easily datable pieces, and the coins which seem at first problematic can have their period of issue assigned by the companionship in which they were found. The style and art of a coin generally give some help—its state of preservation some more. For clearly in a hoard buried in (say) B.C. 44 the coins which are newest and freshest in appearance will be those struck in B.C. 45 or 46, while earlier pieces will be more or less worn down and deteriorated by long use. To analyse one or two hoards would give no certainty, but when we can compare forty-nine, as Mr. Grueber does, we get to tangible results. Except with very rare pieces (like the celebrated denarius of Cethegus, of which only one specimen is known) we have only to look through the record of finds, and to note where any particular coins occur and where they do not, in order to determine their date.

The original rearrangement of the Republican coins in the British Museum, according to their period of issue, was started half a century ago by a forgotten genius, a certain Count John Francis de Salis, who had acquired an almost uncanny power of dating Roman coins during many years of collecting. How great was his accuracy has been shown of late by the way in which the modern discoveries of hoards almost invariably bear out his hypothetical attributions of pieces to the various periods. He worked before Mommsen and the other well-known pioneers, and quite independently of them. Unfortunately he was never much of a writer, and his ten years of hard work on the Museum Coins, starting in the 1850's, have no record save the notes which he made on the circular tickets upon which the coins lie. Yet so great is his authority that in the case of coins whose dating still presents some difficulty, Mr. Grueber always quotes De Salis' opinion, and generally adheres to it. In a way these great volumes are a tardy testimony to the value of the labours of a man who last touched the British Museum trays so far back as 1869, when the scientific treatment of Roman coins was still in its infancy. All that has been garnered together in the way of research since then may be found in Mr. Grueber's elaborate foot-notes to every coin, where the facts discovered by various specialists are duly noted and compared with excellent judgment.

The main interest of the whole inquiry is that we can now twine together Republican history and Republican numismatics in a way that was impossible to the students of the last generation. We know who were the moneyers of the Marian and Sullan parties in the first great civil wars. Indeed, we can see that in the month in which Sulla seized Rome the moneyers who suddenly ceased coining were Norbanus and Antonius Balbus, and their successors of the other faction were Albinus and Capito. Similarly it is certain that, thirty years later, the Pompeian mint-masters who were coining hard when Cæsar had crossed the Rubicon and was marching on Rome must have been Nerius and Sicinius. Coins which have no great beauty in themselves become interesting when we can see in them the memorials of great historic events. It is quite an inspiration to find that the profuse issues of some obscure "triumviri monetales" mark crises in Roman economic history with which we were well acquainted from the chroniclers. For example, the enormous series struck by one Lucius Piso Frugi seemed in them-

selves most banal and destitute of attraction for the collector—anyone can buy as many of these denarii as he pleases at eighteenpence each—but they assume another aspect now that we know that they represent the coinage of B.C. 88, when Rome was engaged in a life and death struggle with the revolted Italian allies, and was minting her last reserves of silver to raise her last legions. We can equally well determine by Mr. Grueber's aid with what issues the reckless financial experiments of Drusus were carried out, and what were the pieces that paid the last army of the Republic, when it marched under Hirtius and Pansa to contend with Mark Antony at Mutina.

The new historical classification with which we have been dealing is by so much the most important thing in these volumes that we have left ourselves short space to deal with other features of the catalogue. Suffice it to say that the topics which have most engrossed earlier commentators, the identification of the persons and scenes portrayed in the Republican coinage, are discussed at great length, and the verdicts given will generally prove quite convincing to the student. We note with special pleasure that Mr. Grueber has gone back to Eckhel's old view as to the scene which appears on the scarce denarii of Æmilius Buca, viz. that it represents Sulla's dream of victory, of which Plutarch tells us, and not the less interesting type of Diana and Endymion.

Old-fashioned critics may perhaps regret the decision that the vast brick-like bronze coins, with animals and other devices, which used to be considered as the earliest coinage of the Republic, must be deprived of that claim. But Mr. Grueber is only expressing the general received opinion of all modern specialists when he removes them to a much later date. The character of the art employed on them is much too advanced to allow any serious commentator to ascribe them any longer to the fifth or early fourth centuries. They were probably not an ordinary coinage, but in some way medallie in character; perhaps they were temple-offerings struck to commemorate great triumphs like the victory over Pyrrhus, to which the pieces with the elephant may very probably refer.

AN AFRICAN MISSIONARY EXPLORER.

"From Hausaland to Egypt, through the Sudan."
By H. Karl W. Kumm. London: Constable. 1910.
16s. net.

FROM Lake Chad to Khartum there is a beaten road used annually by some thousands of Moslem pilgrims going from Timbuktu and Nigeria on their way to Mecca. This road was traversed by Dr. Nachtigal thirty-five years ago. More recently Captain Boyd Alexander got through from the Shari to the Nile along a line some 10 degrees south of the pilgrims' road. Our author's route lay almost midway between these two, but so far has the political organisation of the country extended into what was until only the other day "the Unknown" that of the 3000-odd miles traversed but three hundred have any claim to novelty. After ascending the Niger by steamer Dr. Kumm began his long ride by going through a considerable part of Northern Nigeria, thence he crossed what may be termed the top corner of the German Kameruns, and following up the Shari River passed into French Equatorial Africa. From Ndele a minor pilgrims' road goes to El Obeid, but it is impassable in the wet season, so he was compelled to strike out a new line for himself from that remote French post to Keffi Genji, the extreme eastern station of the Bahr el Ghazal, a distance of some three hundred miles. The English manage affairs with fewer officials in proportion to the country governed than either the French or Germans. The Germans would appear to do their work most thoroughly, especially in the matter of road construction, yet their methods are not altogether a success. Their practice of using forced labour has driven the natives far and wide, so that the great road passes through a depopulated country. Moreover their toll on caravans has diverted trade into other routes.

One must admit a sense of disappointment that Dr.

Kumm does not tell us more. Of course every traveller cannot be a naturalist, but it seems a pity that so great a traveller should (putting aside game) have not one word to say of bird or beast, of fish or shell, of butterfly or beetle, of flower or tree. True, the book is embellished by half-a-dozen three-colour plates of butterflies and moths which illustrate some two hundred and fifty specimens brought home, but beyond a list (full of misprints) of their names as determined by two leading authorities, we do not know, even within hundreds of miles, where they were taken, or when, or in what circumstances. Had it been otherwise, even such a small collection would have been of great value. It may, indeed, be thought wonderful that delicate insects were successfully transported through deluges of rain, but had they been labelled properly the transport difficulty would not have been increased. Exact facts as to time, place, etc., are now looked upon by all naturalists as indispensable. Nevertheless it is possible to learn something from this bare list of names. In six instances Mr. Heron informs us that the insect is of "the wet-season phase". That is to say that being butterflies having two readily distinguishable forms, which it is alleged are usually met with during the dry season and wet season respectively, Dr. Kumm's specimens were of the latter form. This is interesting, because it is exactly what would have been expected, and in science based on observation much accumulated evidence is necessary. It is remarkable that the Painted Lady, perhaps the most widely distributed of all butterflies, does not appear in the list; yet it occurs throughout South Africa, is common at Khartum, and has been taken on the White Nile. It is further remarkable that while, as might have been expected, many of the species from the Shari-Chad Protectorate are known to occur on the White Nile between Gondokoro and Khartum, a yet larger number are found as far south as Durban, or even East London. For example, the fine blue and black butterfly figured on Plate III. occurs in both the last-named places, whereas the large black and yellow butterfly on Plate I. occurs alike at East London and Khartum.

Speaking generally, it is a defect of the book that the illustrations do not illustrate the text, neither does the text explain the illustrations. One feels sure that Dr. Kumm must have seen much of great interest in the arts, customs, and religion of the many races that he came in contact with, yet what he has to say on these points is meagre in the extreme. Doubtless his vocabularies will be useful to those who may follow in his tracks. The author can be very amusing at his own expense, as in his graphic descriptions of his first elephant hunt, and his little mistake with the wart-hog.

Dr. Kumm takes great practical interest in missions, but though he has nothing to tell us about them, perhaps his general views, given as an excursus, are the most valuable part of his book. Many large tribes, for the most part living south of the country he traversed, are still heathen. The Mohammedans are active propagandists. Where the Arab trader goes he plants the Moslem faith, which seems to commend itself to the pagan black. It cannot, we fear, be said that the European trader, or even the European official, is a powerful agent in the spread of his faith; perhaps he may have little faith himself, in any case he is not aggressive. Again, all Christians do not propagate what is obviously the same faith, since it is clothed in such divers forms as greatly to puzzle the poor native. Now these facts have a political bearing of great importance. These black tribes are not going to remain pagans for very long, that is certain. If they are not made Christians they will become Moslems; and Moslems will fight for their religion, and uncivilised Moslems of different nations and races are easily aroused to wage the Holy War. Could not European Governments give more help to missionaries and at the same time protect the heathen blacks from Moslem propaganda? Otherwise it is not inconceivable that the Europeans may be all driven out of Central Africa and the Sudan may again be closed against the white man for an indefinite period.

NOVELS.

"The Riding Master." By Dolf Wyllarde. London: Stanley Paul. 1910. 6s.

This is a tale, told with some skill and in good English (with two bad misprints in one line on page 16 and many others further on), about love and horses; but just as most of the horsey part takes place in a riding-school under cover, so most of the passionate episodes occur in a stifling atmosphere of society. There is very little fresh air or health in Miss Wyllarde's story; even the children, whom she sketches with much cleverness, are either saucily wicked or anæmically sententious. We own, however, to having been quite unpleasantly deceived by the ingenuity of the plot, or one of the plots—the substitution, by the exotic widow of a deceased nobleman, of her daughter in place of the necessary male heir. Equally distasteful is another plot: the neglected wife of an unfaithful husband putting herself to school to her husband's mistress in order to learn how to attract men—and in attracting men to recover her husband. The only character in the book about whom we do not desire to know less is the Riding Master himself, a strong silent young man with a past and a hinted future, on whom the fortunes of all the other distressful characters are pivoted. And we will perhaps except some of the horses from the general condemnation. The book seems to be one quite fitted for our modern library methods of circulation; a book which, if read, will be forgotten without regret. Yet how good a book Miss Wyllarde might write!

"The Meddlings of Eve." By W. J. Hopkins. London: Constable. 1911. 3s. 6d.

To lie at full length on the grass, reading "The Meddlings of Eve" in the intervals of gazing at a summer sky, would be a pleasant enough occupation. Nothing but the reader's good temper is required to secure approbation for this tale. But, later on, when the grass grew damp and the stinging insects began to pester, the book might be thrown aside with a growling remark about "sloppy sentimentality". Such a statement would come easily as the result of ill temper; but the criticism would be scarcely just, for Mr. Hopkins tells his story in a pretty way. It is no more than the record of the happy life of a young married couple living in some modern Garden of Eden. They adore one another and their children, and, from good will or what you will, are perpetually trying to arrange the unmarried folk in pairs like themselves. One and another sheds a tear here and there, but it is always obvious that nothing can go far wrong. It is difficult to hold the reader's attention when all the elements of a conflict are lacking, but the author has a pleasant style, and his book can be read in a couple of idle hours. The novel comes from America, but it is not written in the trans-Atlantic dialect.

"Tales of the Uneasy." By Violet Hunt. London: Heinemann. 1911. 6s.

There are writers who seem to think that the only alternative to Mid-Victorian prudery is to insist on the less seemly things of life. In "Tales of the Uneasy" Violet Hunt tears the veil from the more sordid side of modern life—apparently for the mere pleasure of doing so. Almost every character in these stories is morally warped—half of them actually commit indictable crimes within its pages, and the best that can be said of the rest is that they are merely commonplace.

SHORTER NOTICES.

"The Life of Friedrich Nietzsche." By Daniel Halévy. Translated by J. M. Hone. Introduction by T. M. Kettle. London: Fisher Unwin. 1911. 8s. 6d. net.

Any hour's reading of Nietzsche will raise the question: "What kind of man was this?" Systems of philosophy are judged objectively by tests *ab extra*. Lyrics and rhapsodies refer us to personality. The key to Nietzsche is biography; as it is to Carlyle his nearest English parallel. Carlyle's hero is a primitive form of the Superman; and the

nervous derangements and vanity of the Chelsea prophet were incipient forms of the same neurosis and colossal vanity which with the Naumburg prophet closed in general paralysis. M. Halévy's biography, founded on Madame Förster-Nietzsche's, tells Nietzsche's life-story beautifully. Mr. Kettle's clever, witty introduction is an absolutely just and decisive criticism. Everything is said in these following sentences: "Zarathustra is a counter-poison to sentimentalism, that worst poison of our day. He brings a sort of ethical strychnine, which taken in large doses is fatal, but in small doses is an incomparable tonic. He disturbed many who were woefully at ease in Zion, and was a poet of the heroic life." This applies also at large to Nietzsche. The small dose may be recommended to the sentimentalists who are now chanting, somewhat prematurely, the reign of peace. In his furor against the Christian ethic of love, pity, humility, and resignation Nietzsche overlooked the Christian antithesis. Moltke and Bismarck understood it, and could be sane Christians, not Pagans. Nietzsche never saw but one phase of anything, and this he exaggerated enormously. His was not philosophy but lyricism, not infrequently touched with insanity. His destiny was so pitiable that a society that had adopted his own thought would, to use his terrible phrase, have "excreted" him as degenerate. He knew it, and the morbid vanity which, as Mr. Kettle says, had eaten of the insane root, revolted in rage and despair, and in self-torture evolved "fundamental nonsense" and brilliant imagery. The passion and style were his own, but scholar though he was, he reproduced unconsciously the past dreams of ancient philosophy; with a result "remarkably like zero". For Germans, he is the writer who brought their language to the point of perfection. This is a reduction of his claims but a grateful admission of his utility. Mr. Kettle has a word for the Zarathustrian at nurse in the Nietzschean phronetisier: "Zarathustra, being brave, gibes not only at S. Paul, but even at Herbert Spencer, and has no more toleration for the Gospel according to Marx than for that according to Matthew". M. Halévy and Mr. Kettle together are an effective antidote for a too ingenuous Nietzscheism.

"Household Administration in the Twentieth Century." Edited by Alice Ravenhill and Catherine J. Schiff. London: Grant Richards. 5s. net.

"Household Administration" deals in a scientific, sensible way with a good many topics that our too bookish education of women has tended to thrust into the background—the management of the home, and the household arts and crafts. Miss Hoskyns-Abraham treats of biology in the equipment of women. Her remarks are likely to scandalise those who believe that girls should be brought up in ignorance of the fundamental facts of life. Certainly there is much truth in her assertion that, having divorced the average child from its mother-love, we have gradually lost homecraft traditions, while we have merely put in their place a great deal of second-hand information from books. And it is worth while to remember that the child who early begins to observe living things, to live with them, learn about them, and take care of them, lays the only broad foundation to true knowledge. Mrs. W. N. Shaw urges the application of the physical sciences to domestic methods in the ordinary educational course of every girl. The stock argument is that the latter may not be always called upon to run a home of her own; but the laws which govern health and well-being operate at all times, and the individual who ignores them will suffer. Miss Mabel Atkinson writes in a similar sense; and Miss Ravenhill points out that a knowledge of social science is as much a matter of concern for boys as for girls. We have only space to mention the scholarly and interesting introduction of the co-editor, Miss Catherine Schiff, on woman's position in the family.

"Wild Flowers of the British Isles." Illustrated and written by H. Isabel Adams. Revised by James E. Bagnall. Vol. II. London: Heinemann. 1910. 30s.

Only one regret is possible as to this delightful work—that it does not include all the wild plants of the British Isles. Will not Mrs. Adams go on and add at any rate the water-plants, if she feels the trees too much for her? One can understand a halt at trees, but why should water-plants be left out? The illustrations are done with such satisfying nicety that one feels acutely the loss of the water-lilies. We dwell on the remarkable qualities of this book when the first volume was published. We need say now only that the second is equal to the first. To some it will be more attractive, as it contains some especially showy families such as the orchids. We note with satisfaction that the author's illustrations are kept at the same key of under-colour as they were in the former volume. They are first-rate work altogether.

LAW BOOKS.

"The Principles of International Law." By T. J. Lawrence. London: Macmillan. 4th Edition. 1910. 12s. 6d. net.

As an expository text-book of the field of international law in all its branches there is none which can be read with more profit and pleasure than Dr. Lawrence's "Principles of International Law". In this fourth edition, largely rewritten, with its incorporation of all the material furnished by the wars and conferences and conventions of the past fifteen years, a most fertile period, it is as complete as the subject-matter permits. On the open questions the student finds whatever relates to the theoretical treatment of the subject presented with the lucidity and literary skill that distinguishes the expository parts, and with that unflinching desire to advance International Law on the lines of the highest morality that animates all Dr. Lawrence's writings. Dr. Lawrence is only perhaps too sanguine about recent developments, such as the proceedings of The Hague Conferences, the institution of the International Prize Court, and the Declaration of London of last year. For example, we find this passage: "The prospect, which now seems almost certain of realisation, that the year 1910 will see the establishment of an International Prize Court on the lines laid down in the twelfth of the Conventions of 1907, opens out a vista of great and continuous improvement. In dignity and influence the Court will be the superior to any other on the face of the earth. Its decisions will interpret and develop the rules of maritime warfare accepted by civilised States. With The Hague Conference for its Legislature, the International Prize Court for its judiciary, the Society of Nations will have taken a gigantic step forward in the organisation of that international justice which is an essential condition of international peace". This seems exaggerated; and the very first supposition is wrong; for the Declaration of London is not yet ratified, and in the United Kingdom there is so much dissatisfaction that it may yet not be ratified. In the middle of November last the London Chamber of Commerce discussed the report of its special committee, and decided that "the strongest representations" should be made to the Secretary of State against the ratification and the passing of the Naval Prize Bill then before Parliament. The present confusion in politics adds to the other reasons why the Declaration of London may remain a dead letter. It raises questions of national defence and commercial policy which divide the great political parties.

"Friendly Societies and Industrial and Provident Societies." By Frank Baden Fuller. London: Stevens and Sons. 3rd Edition. 1910. 15s.

The law of friendly societies grows in these days, both by Acts of Parliament and decisions of the Courts. Trade unions are friendly societies, and the air is full of Osborne judgments. The first, that Mr. Osborne has no remedy for dismissal from his society, was just too late to be included in Mr. Fuller's book, and since then in fact the decision, as is well known, has been reversed. Very probably before long Mr. Fuller will have to publish another edition of his excellent book, as the proposed insurance schemes for unemployment and invalidity are bound to affect further the law of friendly societies. The law relating to industrial and provident societies is a new feature of this edition.

"The Finance Acts and Revenue Act, 1903." By James Webster Brown. London: Cox. 1910. 8s. net.

In this book the series of Finance Acts from 1894 to 1910 and the above-mentioned Revenue Act, so far as they relate to the estate duty and other death duties, with the necessary notes, rules, and table of forms, are dealt with. It is a distinction among the crowd of books published on this complex subject that its author is a solicitor official of the Estate Duty Office whose duty is to make and enter claims under the Finance Acts. He modestly writes that he has "some knowledge of the difficulties that usually arise, and these he has endeavoured to explain". Our comment on this must be that practitioners could not have a better guide to the working of these Acts.

"The Marriage Laws of the British Empire." By William Pinder Eversley and William Fildes Crales. London: Stevens and Haynes. 1910. 22s. 6d. net.

The authors undertook a difficult and complicated task in bringing into one volume the law and the legislation concerning the constitution of the marriage union in every country and possession of the British Empire. In the case of the United Kingdom and Ireland all the statutory portion of the marriage laws is fully set forth. Evidently this is a

great convenience by saving reference to many volumes. Not only is trouble saved; there is more reality in reading the actual words of a statute than the desiccated statement of a text book; and if it is an old statute there may be amusement as in that of 1600 in Scotland, which forbids the marriage of the culpable parties in divorce. But the statement in the text that "adultery between the divorced party and the paramour, if declared by the sentence of the competent tribunal in Scotland, is a bar to their subsequent marriage in Scotland", is not clear to an English reader. It means that if the divorce decree gives the name of the paramour, the guilty spouse is barred from marrying the person so named. This power, if it were used in Scotland, might reinforce the argument for a similar provision in England; but, as the authors remark, the usual practice is to omit the name. In regard to the British possessions obviously the plan of giving all the legislation in the same way would be impossible, but so admirably is the material summarised and composed that the work even of readers who have the local statutes at hand will be greatly facilitated. Perhaps the authors would admit that the Society for Comparative Legislation has usefully prepared the ground for their labours. It seems also desirable to mention that though the treatise contains much information on the incidents of marriage in general, it is primarily only concerned with the constitution of the contract. The historical account of the various systems of marriage law in the Empire, which has produced a diversity unequalled elsewhere, is ably set out in the preface.

"War Rights on Land." By J. M. Spaight. London: Macmillan. 1911. 12s. net.

The restraints under which civilised belligerents now carry on war on land is the subject of Dr. Spaight's book. The title is not well chosen, because the whole subject matter is the history of the customs and agreements which have been established in the course of ages by which nations have given up their "rights" to do what they like in war, and submit themselves to ethical rules which change with the growth of moral and political ideas. In recent years a great body of convention is the principal feature in this growth, so that the present state of belligerent morality, or law if one choose to call it so, can be dealt with more positively than it could be, say, at the time of the Crimean War. Dr. Spaight's book is an excellent and complete exposition of a subject which will continue to be what it is now, of extraordinary historical interest as well as present practical importance, until Mr. Bryce and Mr. Knox have concocted that wonderful arbitration treaty which is to send war to limbo. In the meantime we commend Dr. Spaight's book for pleasant and profitable reading on a topic which, as Mr. Francis D. Acland points out in a preface, may at any moment become of immediate application.

"Extradition." By Sir Francis Piggott. London: Butterworth. 1911. 45s. net.

With this treatise the Chief Justice of Hong-Kong completes his learned work on Nationality and Jurisdiction. Its great distinction has been the body of criticism which has accompanied the exposition of the law as actually administered; and by this criticism Sir Francis Piggott has rendered great service to jurisprudence and made a reputation amongst English jurists. In this volume we still see the intellectual dissatisfaction of a most critical mind with the theory of the Extradition Acts and the treaties; but it is satisfactory to learn that, judged by results, the practice of extradition has been successfully worked and has triumphed over theoretical difficulties. In forty years there have only been about seventy cases worth reporting. In this book, as in the others, Sir Francis' criticism stands on record for future developments; but not only so, for practical purposes of reference the book is indispensable for every great library. Thus all the treaties are reprinted in English and the corresponding languages. The series is an enterprise of publication, too, which calls for recognition.

"The Law Relating to the Generation, Distribution and Use of Electricity and Electric Traction." By C. M. Knowles. 2 vols. London: Stevens and Sons. 1911. 42s.

It scarcely seems credible, seeing the transformation of lighting, tramway and railway traction, that only in 1879 the first Commission sat to consider the question of enabling corporations and companies to adopt electric schemes; and that all the legislation lies between the first Act of 1882 and the last Act of 1909. Dr. Knowles' treatise in its introduction tells the unsatisfactory history of the legislation in the interval and the respects in which legislation still lags behind public requirements. All the law, statute and judicial, all the rules, all forms and models requisite for the draftsman and advisers of promoters of schemes are set out

and expounded in these two volumes. Moreover, one section of the work goes beyond the strict subject of the Electric Lighting Acts and the decisions. Electricity has come to play too large a part in our social and industrial life to be so confined, and Dr. Knowles has taken this into due consideration.

"The Law Relating to Trade Unions." By John Henry Greenwood. London: Stevens and Sons. 1911. 10s.

Mr. Greenwood brings Trade Union law not exactly up to date, for only an interleaved reference to the recent second Osborne case could be given, but in every other respect the lawyer and the ordinary reader will find everything here he requires. Mr. Greenwood's aim, he says, has been to make the subject intelligible to Trade Union officials. We are by no means saying it is not so made; but in diffusing his information he has done less focusing than was desirable for this object. The lawyer focuses for himself more easily.

"A Treatise on Statute Law." By William Feilden Craies. London: Stevens and Haynes. 2nd Edition. 1911. 28s.

Mr. Craies retains "Hardcastle on Statutory Law" in its place as a text-book not to be ousted by competitors. The second edition has become really Craies on Statute Law. Since the edition in 1907 the most important decisions have been on statutes which have given to Government Departments function of a quasi judicial character. As Mr. Craies says in the text there is "a distinct tendency to substitute Departments of State for Courts of Law". Everybody knows of the Government's Finance Act, and how under criticism, in which the Judges were not behind, the contemplated dangerous sphere of Treasury officials was to a considerable extent restricted.

"Wharton's Law-Lexicon." By W. H. Aggs. London: Stevens and Sons. 11th Edition. 1911. 38s.

Wharton was known long before rival Encyclopædias of Law were heard of, and even now that their numerous tomes occupy long shelves the wise law or historical student or practitioner will take a preliminary and even a subsequent glance at Wharton. It is an unrivalled epitome of the law of England; and it contains full explanations of technical terms and phrases, ancient, modern, and commercial, with selected titles from the Civil, Scots, and Indian Law. The volume is for the shelves of every educated person. A new idea is to keep it up to date and issue it each year at half-price.

There are three books as to which it is superfluous to do more than refer to their new editions. The eighth edition of Sir Frederick Pollock's "Principles of Contract"—a classic now after thirty years—issued by Stevens and Sons; "The Magistrate's General Practice" (eighth edition), by Mr. Charles Milner Atkinson, issued by Stevens and Sons and Sweet and Maxwell, of which we wrote less than a year ago; and the fourth edition of "The Law of Licensing", by Mr. John Bruce Williamson, issued by Messrs. Stevens and Sons; the two latter being due to the Licensing Act of 1910 and the licensing clauses of the Finance Act.

THE APRIL REVIEWS.

Sir Edward Grey's speech in the House of Commons on arbitration is dealt with from many points in the April Reviews. Mr. Harold Spender in the "Contemporary Review" describes the speech as "at once a debating triumph and an international event". It saved the Government, it seems, from a party split on the Naval Estimates, and united the Radical Party "on a new policy of peace abroad". Mr. Spender hopes to see this policy reflected in next year's Estimates; and for an immediate effect he turns to the resolution brought by the Social Democrats in the Reichstag. Mr. Spender is even more hopeful when he turns to America. It is true, he admits, that America has not dealt fairly by us in the past; but that, he argues, is because in America the Irish element has been powerful and hostile. Now that a Home Rule Government is in office the hostility of the Irish-American need no longer be feared. A corrective of Mr. Harold Spender's nonsense is given by Mr. Harold F. Wyatt, in the "Nineteenth Century". "Efficiency for war is God's test of a nation's soul"; and, if war were made impossible, "the machinery by which national corruption is punished and national virtue rewarded would be unneeded". The editor of the "National Review" vigorously attacks the idea that any advantage or credit can come of the projected treaty with America. The people of America, he urges, are unanimous

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THE WESTMINSTER FIRE OFFICE

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The most controversial article of the month is Mr. Arthur Baumann's “A Tory Plea for the Parliament Bill”, published in the “Fortnightly Review.” Mr. Baumann is for allowing the Bill to pass, and for concentrating upon an effort to secure reasonable amendments. The Bill at its worst would not be so disastrous as the five-hundred peers. This creation “would place the Radical Government in immediate possession of a majority in the Upper House, which would enable them at once without the delay of two years and a half, during the life of the present Parliament, to pass into law Bills for Home Rule, for the Disestablishment of the Church in Wales, and for universal adult suffrage. Under the Parliament Bill, as it stands, the Radicals would only be able to carry one of these measures, or at most two, before the next election”. Mr. Baumann is not so much frightened by the provisions of the Bill as by the contempt for tradition and defiance of the law in the spirit which prompts it. He thinks that by increasing the provisions for delay and by inserting a general election between the rejection of any Bill by the Lords and its final carriage the Bill could be made comparatively harmless. The pivot of the whole question is delay. “The avenues of agitation are so many and so free—the Press, the platform, petitions to Parliament and the Crown (the practice ought to be revived), deputations to Ministers, instructions to members—that if in three or four years' time an Opposition cannot convince the Government or the nation that a Bill ought to be dropped, the presumption is, not that the Bill ought to be passed, but that the electors wish it to be passed; and passed, therefore, sooner or later it must be.”

“Emanon”, also in the “Fortnightly Review”, has an article on “National Conservatism”. What has become of the conservative feeling in the country which in former times checked Radical legislation even when the Radicals were in office and always dogged attempts at revolution with reaction? “Conservative reaction followed so closely upon the heels of Liberal victory that even while Liberal Ministers were still young it restrained the excessive demands of Radical extremists with the chill warning of Nemesis to follow.” The reason of the apparent disappearance of conservative feeling is, in the opinion of “Emanon”, to be found in the fact that conservative feeling has no party to represent it. The Unionists frightened this conservative feeling by the violence of their tariff propaganda. Instead of asking for a few new taxes they proclaimed a revolution. “Electors could no longer be urged to adhere to tried and tested paths and avoid reckless plunges into the unknown, to mistrust large promises of future benefit and to refuse the disturbance of present security by which those promises were conditioned. Such arguments if dwelt upon would have been stultified by the inevitable peroration upon the necessity of immediate fiscal revolution and the glorious prospects which it would open to the working man.” Had Tariff Reform and Preference been advocated on conservative lines and in conservative language the result might have been different. In the “Nineteenth Century” Prof. Morgan has a studied article upon the “Constitutional Revolution”—an article which opens with citations from Aristotle, Burke, and Von Ranke. The modern tendencies of the Constitution, such as the growing power of the great departments and the increasing difficulties of discussion, are treated with great clearness and ability. Of the problems that have arisen from these various causes Mr. Morgan sees no solution in the proposals of either party. The one clear thing that emerges is the necessity of an efficient Second Chamber.

Of the relation of Mr. Asquith to the constitutional movement “Blackwood” has some passages in “Musings without Method”. With Mr. Asquith it has been *facilis descensus*, till at last he is no longer a man, but a mouthpiece of the various factions of his party. How has he arrived at this position? “Blackwood” finds the answer in the narrowness of his view as a politician and a party man: “It is characteristic of Mr. Asquith's unimpassioned advocacy that he seldom refers, even in passing, to his country or its dominions. You would never discover from his speeches that he was the first Minister in a vast Empire. Mandates, electors, and parties engross all his waking thoughts. . . . It is the party always which he defends. In the many discourses which he has delivered concerning the Parliament Bill, he has fixed his mind always upon the future of Liberalism, never upon the future of England; it is always the tactical advantage of himself and his friends which seems of supreme interest.”

Mr. E. D. Morel has an echo of his campaign against King Leopold II. in “The Story of the Crown Domain” which he tells in the “Nineteenth Century”. It is a nightmare of horrors, and Mr. Morel refuses to regard it as a *chose jugée* until guarantees are secured that the work of reparation so far as possible shall bear comparison with the devastation. Mr. Morel finds in a recent statement of the Belgian Colonial Minister evidence that the mental outlook of those associated with the condemned régime is fundamentally unchanged. Mr. Felix Cassel, in the “Financial Review of Reviews,” attacks the scandal of money-lending “banks”, and draws attention to the proposed remedy, by which new banks not being limited companies should be made to deposit £20,000 as security on the principle of new insurance companies.

Twelve “Satires of Circumstance” by Mr. Thomas Hardy are published in the “Fortnightly Review” this month. The thought is well packed; there is an occasional happy phrase, or pointed line; and the verse form rounds the effect of these studies in disenchantment. The “Fortnightly Review” has also a delightful account by Mr. Yone Noguchi, the Japanese poet, of his first experiences of London. On drama there is a serious article by Mr. Laurence Irving in the “Fortnightly”; but more interesting is a personal sketch by Mr. John Masefield of John Synge in the “Contemporary Review”. Of Synge, the perfect companion, Mr. Masefield speaks as one who knew him before his name had grown. There is in this article a passage borne out in every line of Synge's plays: “He was the only Irishman I have ever met who cared nothing for either the political or the religious issue. He had a prejudice against one Orange district, because the people in it were dour. He had a prejudice against one Roman Catholic district, because the people in it were rude. Otherwise his mind was untroubled. Life was what interested him. He would have watched a political or religious riot with gravity, with pleasure in the spectacle, and malice for the folly. He would have taken no side, and felt no emotion, except a sort of pity when the losers could go on no longer. The question was nothing to him. All that he asked for was to hear what it made people say and to see what it made people do.”

The “English Review” draws mainly upon its old contributors. Mr. Conrad continues his story “Under Western Eyes”. Mr. Cunningham Graham, Mr. Frank Harris, Mr. Ford Madox Hueffer all contribute; and Mr. W. L. George merrily indicts the whole herd of dramatists: “clever playwrights have no ideas, men of ideas cannot write plays”. However, Mr. George allows one or two exceptions, and allows them with judgment.

“Scribner's” contains a selection of new Stevenson letters, edited by Mr. Sidney Colvin. What a letter-writer he was! There are still one hundred and fifty to be published, it seems, and they are only a selection. Mr. Colvin hits them off exactly, judging from the present instalment, as “attractive and companionable beyond most others”. Another notable contribution to “Scribner's” is Mr. Collier's further account of his impressions in India. He is not carried away by talk about the learning, the intellectual gifts and the inscrutable subtlety of the Eastern mind. “The inscrutability may be emptiness rather than depth.” He finds few even among educated Indians who want justice; they want preference. England's greatness, he says, is due largely to the fact that she has held stubbornly, despite republics and revolutions, to the belief that all men are not equal and are not entitled to an equal degree of liberty or justice.

For this Week's Books see pages 434 and 436.

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(Continued on page 436.)

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Plant Life on Land (F. N. Bower). Cambridge: The University Press. 1s. net.

Crystallography and Practical Crystal Measurement (A. E. H. Zutton). Macmillan. 30s. net.

The British Bird-Book (Edited by F. B. Kirkman, B.A. Oxon.). Edinburgh: Jack. 10s. 6d. net.

REPRINTS AND TRANSLATIONS.

Jane: A Socialist Incident (Marie Corelli). Methuen. 1s. net.

Father Anthony (Robert Buchanan); Delilah of the Snows (Harold Bindloss). Long. 6d. each.

De Profundis (Oscar Wilde). Methuen. 1s. net.

The Grammar of Science (Karl Pearson). Black. 6s. net.

Lay Morals and other Papers (Robert Louis Stevenson). Chatto and Windus.

Lavengro (George Borrow). Murray. 1s.

SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

The Psychology of Child Development (Irving King). Chicago: Chicago Press. 4s. net.

Faith, Medicine and the Mind (Charles Reinhardt). London: Publicity Co.

The History of Medicine (David Allyn Gorton. Vols. I. and II.). Putnam. 25s. net.

Adam Smith and Modern Sociology (Albion W. Small). Chicago: Chicago Press. 5s. net.

Religion and Immortality (G. Lowes Dickinson). Dent. 1s. net.

An Interpretation of Genesis (Rev. F. P. Ramsay). The Neale Publishing Co. \$2.00 net.

TRAVEL.

Sinai in Spring (M. J. Rendall). Dent. 4s. 6d. net.

VERSE AND DRAMA.

Lady Patricia (Rudolf Besier). Fisher Unwin. 2s. 6d.

Songs and Sonnets (Webster Ford). Chicago: Rocks Press.

Week-Day Poems (Hugh Owen Meredith). Arnold. 5s. net.

My Three Loves (Beverley D. Tucker); For Truth and Freedom (Armistead G. Gordon). The Neale Publishing Co.

The King's Temptation and other Poems (James E. Pickering). Fifeild. 1s. net.

La Lyre D'Amour (Charles B. Lewis). Chatto and Windus. 5s. net.

MISCELLANEOUS.

American Newspaper, The (James Edward Rogers). Chicago Press. 4s. net.

Economy of Food, The (J. Alan Murray). Constable. 3s. 6d. net.

Herb Garden, The (Frances A. Bardswell). Black. 7s. 6d. net.

Holiday in Gaol, A (Frédéric Martyn). Methuen. 3s. 6d.

Irish Affairs and the Home Rule Question (Philip G. Cambray). Murray. 3s. 6d. net.

Leaning Spire, The (George A. B. Dewar). Rivers. 2s. 6d. net.

Lectures on Commerce (Henry Rand Hatfield). Chicago Press. 6s. net.

Mearing Stones (Joseph Campbell). Dublin: Maunsel. 3s. 6d. net.

Public Library Reform (William Weare). Penny and Hull.

Recreations with a Pocket Lens (W. J. Wintle). Ouseley. 2s. net.

Shepherds of Britain (Adelaide L. J. Gosset). Constable. 7s. 6d. net.

The Book of Roses (Louis Durand). Lane. 2s. 6d. net.

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1. To consider and if deemed fit to pass a Resolution adopting and confirming, with or without modifications, a Provisional Agreement of Sale and Purchase entered into between this Company and Messrs. Wernher, Beit & Co. of No. 1 London Wall Buildings, London, E.C., whereby it is provided that this Company shall purchase from that firm which shall sell to it, certain of their shareholding in the following gold mining companies:

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2. Should the said Provisional Agreement be confirmed, then to pass a further Resolution, increasing the nominal capital of the Company from £490,000 (Four hundred and ninety thousand pounds) to £550,000 (Five hundred and fifty thousand pounds) by the creation of 240,000 (Two hundred and forty thousand) new shares each of the nominal value of 5s. (Five shillings) which shall be dealt with by the Directors of this Company as follows:—

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By order of the Board,
H. A. READ, Joint Secretary.

Head Office: The Corner House, Johannesburg,
April 6, 1911.

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The Thirteenth Ordinary General Meeting of the London and Thames Haven Oil Wharves (Limited) was held on Wednesday, Sir Owen Phillips, K.C.M.G., the Chairman of the Company, presided.

The Secretary (Mr. T. Clarkson J. Burgess) read the usual notice.

The Chairman said: Gentlemen, you will agree with me that the report and accounts which we have to present to you to-day are of a very satisfactory nature. They show the steady progress which this Company has been making. The Company's business during the past year has run a normal course. The quantities landed at Thames Haven are slightly less than in the year 1909. This slight reduction is probably accounted for by the fact that at the beginning of the year the stocks on the premises at Thames Haven were rather unusually heavy, and therefore importers did not require to import quite so much to keep up their business; and it is also partly due to irregularities in transport facilities. If you will look at this large plan on the wall you will be able to see at a glance the enormous developments which have taken place since we took over this business some thirteen years ago. Our tank storage capacity at that time was about two million gallons, but now it is nearly fifty million gallons' capacity. Your Thames Haven property is a unique site for the storage of petrol in large quantities, and possesses many natural advantages which are not to be found elsewhere. One of the features of this great national oil store is the beautiful arrangement of pipes which is marked in blue on the plan, and from the tanks they extend to the pumps needed for the discharging of oil from the ships to the storage tanks and to the barges or barrelling and canning departments. The total amount of pipes laid, you may be interested to know, is over ten miles in length, and it is so arranged as to give absolute control over the whole storage, and enables the handling of the oil and spirit to be carried out with a minimum of labour and a maximum of safety. Your Directors are fully alive to their responsibilities to the trade, and the Company is always ready and willing to provide facilities for, and protect the interests of, their numerous clients. The dangers in connexion with the storage of petrol are many, but at Thames Haven they are fully understood by your experts, who take every possible precaution to guard against and avoid all possible risk. One of the greatest difficulties in a business like ours is to make provision for the ever-changing needs and requirements of the numerous trades which we serve. Your Board have just completed a thorough reorganisation of the system of working, which has effected an almost complete transformation of the Thames Haven Wharf, and it is now admitted to be the most up-to-date and thoroughly-equipped installation in this country or on the Continent, and, as I believe, in the world—for I do not believe that there is anything even in America which will equal or surpass this installation. We maintain a scientific laboratory department, which is at the disposal of any of our clients for advice in all matters pertaining to their business, and your Directors are determined under any and all circumstances to continue to carry on the policy which they have always adopted, and which has in the past, I believe, given complete satisfaction, not only to the shareholders, but also to what is still more important—namely, to our customers, the trade—I mean the policy of keeping abreast, and even ahead, of the requirements of the numerous and various trades for which this Company caters. I have often spoken to you in the past of liquid fuel, for which, as you know, this Company is in an exceptionally favourable position for conducting a large business; but although great strides have been made in cheapening the supplies, and in the assurance of more ample supplies in the future, still it has so far not made much progress. There are, however, indications that in the near future the progress, if not rapid, would at least be somewhat more marked than it has been in the past. And when this liquid-fuel business develops and various trades for which this Company caters. I will now formally move that the report and accounts for the year ending December 31, 1910, now presented, be adopted; and that a dividend on the Ordinary share capital of the Company be paid at the rate of 8 per cent., less the amount paid in advance in October last.

Mr. Allan McCall seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

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